

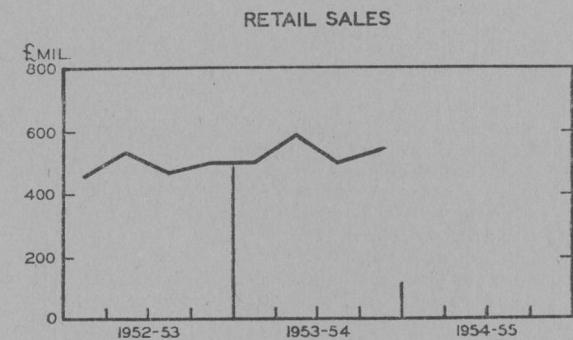
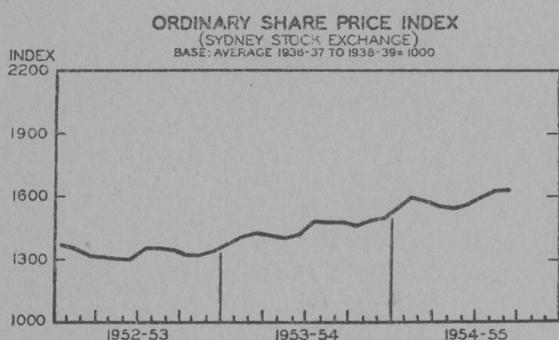
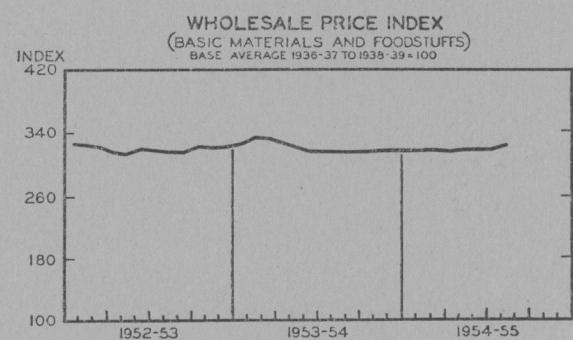
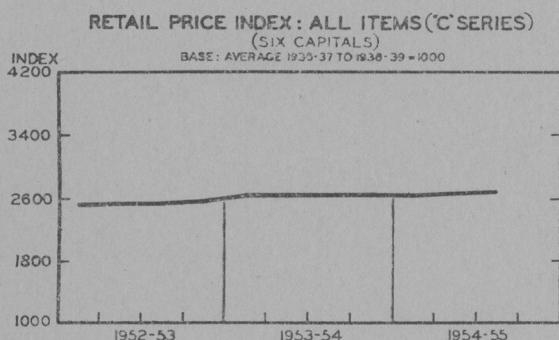
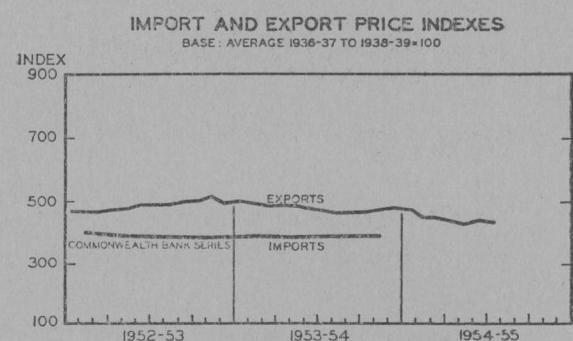
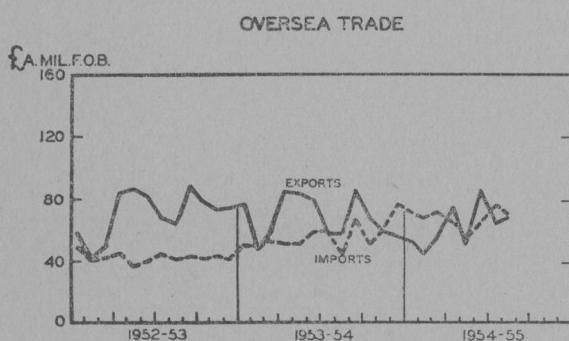
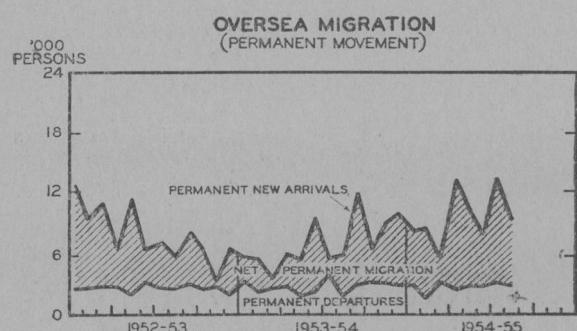
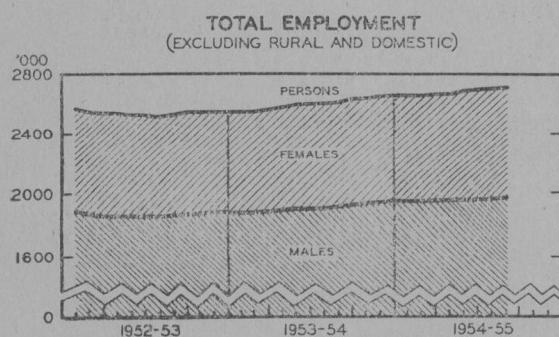
COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS, CANBERRA,
AUSTRALIA.

MONTHLY REVIEW OF BUSINESS STATISTICS

MARCH, 1955.

No. 210.

PREPARED UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE TREASURER
BY
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The following symbols, where shown in columns of figures, mean—

- n.a. Not available.
- .. Nil or less than half the final digit shown, or not applicable.
- r Figure or series revised.
- p Preliminary—figure or series subject to revision.
- Break in continuity of series (where drawn across a column between two consecutive figures).

A blank space in a column of figures means that the figure concerned is not yet available.

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INDICATORS OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY.

This and the following page summarize the trend of business activity shown by certain of the major indicators contained in various tables herein :—

Period.	Total Civil Employment			Average Weekly Wage Earnings(b) Index (Base : 1945-46 = 1,000).	Internal Trade. Whole-sale.(c)	Oversea Trade (Merchandise only—Values f.o.b. port of Shipment.)		Building Permits(d) Six Capital Cities and Suburbs.	New Houses Com- pleted.(e)		
	—End of Month (Excluding Rural and Household Domestic). (a)					Imports.	Exports.				
	Males.	Females.	Total.								
Monthly Average—	'000.	'000.	'000.		£m.	£m.	£m.	£'000.	No.		
1932-33	(f)992	(f)341	(f)1,333	n.a.	29.1	5.5	8.2	565		
1936-37	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	37.2	8.6	12.3	1,986		
1937-38	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	40.5	10.6	11.7	2,307		
1938-39	(g)1,293	(g)437	(g)1,730	n.a.	39.8	9.4	10.1	2,353		
1947-48	1,693	635	2,328	1,164	79.5	28.2	33.7	4,687		
1948-49	1,757	656	2,413	1,322	93.4	34.5	45.1	5,577		
1949-50	1,810	675	2,485	1,451	110.2	44.7	51.0	7,129		
1950-51	1,882	707	2,589	1,742	140.5	61.8	81.6	10,426		
1951-52	1,915	709	2,624	2,145	162.1	87.5	55.4	9,700		
1952-53	1,876	670	2,546	2,350	158.1	42.5	70.7	10,045		
1953-54	1,914	695	2,609	2,462	179.5	56.5	67.7	12,357		
Monthly Total—											
1952-53—											
April	1,883	676	2,559	2,377	164.4	43.3	79.1	10,293		
May	1,885	675	2,560		170.4	44.2	72.7	11,685		
June	1,887	674	2,561		171.4	41.9	74.0	12,978		
1953-54—											
July	1,882	676	2,558	2,445	169.3	52.0	76.4	13,209		
August	1,886	678	2,564		161.6	52.2	48.4	12,341		
September	1,890	682	2,572		189.0	53.1	59.3	12,570		
October	1,898	686	2,584	2,436	188.5	50.5	85.8	11,738		
November	1,907	694	2,601		195.1	50.7	84.8	11,884		
December	1,911	701	2,612		193.2	58.7	78.2	10,235		
January	1,912	698	2,610	2,491	146.8	60.4	58.0	8,941		
February	1,921	701	2,622		162.7	45.8	57.4	11,607		
March	1,931	708	2,639		184.7	66.9	85.2	13,753		
April	1,936	708	2,644	2,477	182.4	52.1	65.3	13,622		
May	1,942	707	2,649		183.0	60.1	57.8	12,904		
June	1,948	708	2,656		198.5	76.0	55.1	15,489		
1954-55—											
July	1,947	709	2,656	2,522	187.0	70.3	51.9	18,403		
August	1,949	711	2,660		198.1	66.7	43.8	17,646		
September	1,953	715	2,668		209.9	70.3	54.7	20,078		
October	1,955	719	2,674	2,524	r206.0	64.6	72.8	16,795		
November	1,965	727	2,692		r213.9	54.7	50.7	20,495		
December	1,969	732	2,701		213.0	64.4	84.8	14,174		
January	1,969	724	2,693			76.0	63.9			
February	1,977	733	2,710			69.8	67.6			

(a) Excludes Defence Forces at home or abroad, National Service Trainees in camp and, in 1932-33, Government "relief" workers. Figures from 1947-48 subject to revision. (b) Seasonally adjusted. Average earnings per employed male unit. Male units represent total male employment plus a proportion of female employment based on the approximate ratio of female to male earnings. (c) Net sales recorded under Sales Tax Acts. (d) All building operations for which permits granted by local government authorities. Excludes Government buildings (see note (a) page 31). (e) Including owner-built houses. Quarterly averages for years, and quarterly totals. (f) June, 1933; obtained from Census. (g) July, 1939; obtained from National Register. (h) Partly estimated.

For meaning of symbols n.a., r, see page 1.

INDICATORS OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY—continued.

Period.	Production of Black Coal.	Total Electricity Generated.	Production of Ingot Steel.	New Motor Vehicles Registered (a) (Excluding Defence Service Vehicles).		Government Railways : Gross Revenue.	P.M.G.'s Depart- ment Cash Receipts.	Private Trading Banks. (b)		Bank Debits to Cus- tomers, Accounts (Weekly Averages).
				Motor Cars.	Com- merical Vehicles.			Deposits.	Advances.	
Monthly Average—	'000 tons.	Million kWh	'000 tons.	'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£m.	£m.	£m.
1932-33 ..	732	225	32.7	1.0	0.3	(c) 3,017	1,053	269.9	231.0	n.a.
1936-37 ..	977	331	90.0	4.0	2.0	(c) 3,407	1,318	297.6	262.5	n.a.
1937-38 ..	990	363	97.2	4.6	2.3	(c) 3,632	1,396	314.8	274.4	n.a.
1938-39 ..	1,051	391	97.5	4.5	2.1	(c) 3,580	1,447	317.7	288.1	n.a.
1947-48 ..	1,231	697	112.1	3.6	2.4	6,376	2,616	673.5	329.9	175.9
1948-49 ..	1,244	754	98.2	5.5	3.1	7,174	2,776	776.4	368.8	212.8
1949-50 ..	1,243	792	101.5	9.6	4.8	7,702	3,196	910.1	403.9	271.1
1950-51 ..	1,369	875	120.3	10.6	6.5	8,834	3,732	1,144.2	479.3	372.9
1951-52 ..	1,598	941	126.8	10.4	6.1	11,668	4,948	1,201.7	621.4	402.4
1952-53 ..	1,546	1,024	150.1	7.7	4.4	12,892	5,371	1,162.4	638.1	389.3
1953-54 ..	p1,618	p1,135	p177.5	10.4	4.8	14,198	5,650	1,275.5	658.5	446.5
Monthly Total—										
1952-53—										
February ..	1,532	932	143.4	7.3	4.0	11,492	5,125	1,218.9	604.1	402.9
March ..	1,606	1,052	162.7	8.4	4.6	13,325	5,605	1,272.6	593.9	414.7
April ..	1,404	1,017	156.9	7.5	4.6	13,195	5,275	1,283.5	592.5	402.1
May ..	1,382	1,121	170.3	7.9	4.9	13,085	5,433	1,252.2	597.6	408.4
June ..	1,429	1,160	171.7	7.4	4.9	13,486	5,675	1,239.0	601.8	409.8
1953-54—	p	p	p							
July ..	1,822	1,195	188.4	9.6	5.5	14,062	5,438	1,204.0	616.9	418.8
August ..	1,707	1,155	186.9	8.5	4.7	13,947	5,116	1,181.3	619.9	373.0
September ..	1,753	1,109	171.0	10.5	4.8	14,387	5,613	1,191.7	630.8	413.8
October ..	1,737	1,125	187.8	10.7	4.7	14,685	5,837	1,210.0	654.6	425.5
November ..	1,669	1,085	181.7	10.5	4.9	14,194	5,487	1,250.9	664.1	438.6
December ..	1,305	1,062	167.1	11.2	5.1	14,130	6,409	1,290.0	665.0	493.7
January ..	1,166	1,036	180.4	8.4	3.6	13,599	5,130	1,303.8	654.1	405.1
February ..	1,460	1,020	151.7	8.6	3.8	12,233	5,049	1,337.1	656.0	438.7
March ..	1,817	1,181	178.6	11.7	5.3	14,764	6,247	1,363.0	664.3	489.3
April ..	1,544	1,126	177.1	11.3	4.9	13,772	5,587	1,354.9	684.7	449.8
May ..	1,720	1,246	187.2	11.7	5.2	14,686	5,779	1,323.3	695.4	490.6
June ..	1,720	1,282	176.0	12.4	5.3	15,922	6,106	1,305.0	701.7	500.0
1954-55—										
July ..	1,760	1,359	202.4	13.4	5.8	14,456	5,657	1,271.7	724.9	471.3
August ..	1,746	1,321	193.2	15.9	6.0	15,123	5,558	1,256.7	738.8	443.4
September ..	1,831	1,255	197.3	13.8	6.3	15,375	5,903	1,260.3	757.1	472.7
October ..	r1,726	1,243	200.9	13.6	5.8	15,304	5,929	1,285.9	780.1	497.6
November ..	r1,780	1,212	189.5	13.6	6.2		6,397	1,299.3	786.2	483.4
December ..	r1,478	r1,189	189.2	13.4	5.7		7,038	1,317.7	785.7	511.0
January ..	896	1,162	173.6	r8.1	r3.8		5,160	1,334.8	769.8	463.7
February ..	1,473		156.3	p12.3	p4.6		5,927	1,356.2	772.9	504.9
March ..				p15.6	p5.8		6,619	1,364.3	775.9	501.9

(a) Excludes Northern Territory prior to July, 1953; also extra-metropolitan area of Western Australia prior to 1938-39.
 (b) Until December, 1946, averages of deposits and advances on Mondays in period; thereafter on Wednesdays. (c) Excludes Tasmania.

For meaning of symbols, n.a., r, p, —, see page 1.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS : AUSTRALIA.

Period.		Marriages.	Births.	Deaths.	Natural Increase.(a)	Net Migration.(b)	Total Increase.(c)	Population at end of Period.
Quarterly Average—								
1936-37	..	14,627	29,634	16,129	13,505	496	14,291	6,835,536
1937-38	..	15,529	29,924	16,170	13,754	1,676	15,751	6,898,541
1938-39	..	15,279	30,636	17,023	13,613	3,339	17,303	6,967,754
1947-48	..	19,008	44,252	18,876	25,376	7,341	32,358	d 7,708,790
1948-49	..	18,498	44,149	19,041	25,108	25,287	49,839	d 7,908,143
1949-50	..	18,558	47,048	19,001	28,047	40,387	67,674	d 8,178,839
1950-51	..	19,211	48,114	19,896	28,218	33,244	60,784	d 8,421,974
1951-52	..	18,896	49,228	20,661	28,567	25,720	53,684	d 8,636,711
1952-53	..	17,870	50,739	20,023	30,716	14,516	44,838	d 8,815,660
1953-54	..	17,827	50,400	20,390	30,010	13,263	42,803	e 8,986,873
Quarterly Total—								
1951-52—								
September	Qtr.	..	16,610	49,681	24,114	25,567	23,487	48,512
December	"	..	20,487	47,580	20,352	27,228	31,062	57,643
March	"	..	19,411	50,404	18,228	32,176	27,698	59,209
June	"	..	19,078	49,248	19,949	29,299	20,632	49,373
1952-53—								
September	"	..	15,679	50,896	23,878	27,018	24,883	51,328
December	"	..	20,004	51,102	19,542	31,560	20,819	51,808
March	"	..	17,393	51,469	17,142	34,327	8,632	42,492
June	"	..	18,406	49,489	19,532	29,957	3,730	33,321
1953-54—								
September	"	..	15,210	50,517	23,289	27,228	10,335	37,158
December	"	..	19,631	50,760	20,225	30,535	20,200	50,190
March	"	..	17,868	49,709	17,367	32,342	12,175	44,031
June	"	..	18,600	50,613	20,677	29,936	10,340	39,834
1954-55—								
September	"	..	15,097	50,772	24,670	26,102	16,809	42,911
December	"	..	19,664	51,162	19,091	32,071	28,883	60,954

(a) Excess of births over deaths. (b) Excess of arrivals over departures. (c) Includes natural increase and net migration

together with adjustments for deaths of defence personnel and adjustments of population between July, 1933 and June, 1954, on the basis of Census results. (d) Adjusted in accordance with the preliminary results of the 1954 Census. (e) Census 30th June, 1954 (preliminary count).

POPULATION: STATES.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queens-land.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Northern Territory.	Australian Capital Territory.	Australia.	
30th June— 1939	..	2,748,393	1,878,480	1,018,007	596,563	470,044	237,419	6,281	12,567	6,967,754
1947 (a)	..	2,984,838	2,054,701	1,106,415	646,073	502,480	257,078	10,868	16,905	7,579,358
1948 (b)	..	3,015,529	2,092,782	1,131,219	661,162	515,067	261,209	12,251	19,571	7,708,790
1949 (b)	..	3,093,043	2,143,032	1,159,164	679,324	532,176	267,070	13,387	20,947	7,908,143
1950 (b)	..	3,194,015	2,208,166	1,196,242	709,578	557,075	275,913	14,686	23,164	8,178,839
1951 (b)	..	3,278,898	2,276,694	1,227,776	732,470	580,317	286,209	15,601	24,009	8,421,974
1952 (b)	..	3,340,177	2,344,585	1,259,572	755,102	599,823	296,321	15,453	25,678	8,636,711
1953 (b)	..	3,384,242	2,395,300	1,291,526	775,841	620,501	304,107	15,839	28,304	8,815,660
1954 (c)	..	3,423,718	2,452,337	1,318,393	797,159	639,716	308,783	16,452	30,315	8,986,873
31st December, 1954	..	3,462,502	2,480,873	1,322,886	808,308	649,360	319,542	16,123	31,144	9,090,738

(a) Census—30th June, 1947. (b) Adjusted in accordance with the preliminary results of the 1954 Census. (c) Census—30th June, 1954 (preliminary count).

OVERSEA MIGRATION.

Permanent migration refers to persons, other than Australian troops, intending residence for one year or longer—in Australia in the case of arrivals, and abroad in the case of departures. Temporary migration refers to persons intending residence for shorter periods, together with Australian troops from July, 1947, onwards, irrespective of length of intended residence.

Period.	Temporary.				Permanent.		
	Australian Residents.		Visitors from Overseas.		Arrivals.	Australian Residents Departing.	Excess of Arrivals.
	Arriving.	Departing.	Arriving.	Departing.			
Monthly Average—							
1936-37 ..	1,910	1,937	2,294	2,297	1,148	953	195
1937-38 ..	2,127	2,060	2,617	2,678	1,478	925	553
1938-39 ..	2,145	1,966	2,649	2,742	2,081	1,055	1,026
1947-48 ..	2,238	1,981	1,729	1,897	3,881	1,523	2,358
1948-49 ..	2,008	1,898	2,829	2,566	9,568	1,511	8,057
1949-50 ..	2,336	2,500	3,470	3,644	15,407	1,608	13,799
1950-51 ..	2,812	2,617	3,594	3,753	12,774	1,729	11,045
1951-52 ..	3,251	3,233	3,895	4,085	10,872	2,126	8,746
1952-53 ..	3,351	3,427	3,838	4,198	7,991	2,717	5,274
1953-54 ..	3,648	3,556	3,953	3,906	7,206	2,924	4,282
Monthly Total—							
1952-53—							
February ..	3,306	4,014	4,042	3,742	6,015	2,559	3,456
March ..	3,496	5,836	4,885	5,335	8,268	3,187	5,081
April ..	3,441	5,021	4,379	4,999	6,802	2,710	4,092
May ..	2,310	3,729	2,812	4,266	3,493	2,856	637
June ..	2,224	2,640	2,918	3,108	6,659	1,979	4,680
1953-54—							
July ..	2,927	2,731	2,941	3,174	5,757	3,510	2,247
August ..	3,432	2,196	3,191	2,840	5,600	2,365	3,235
September ..	4,296	2,092	3,448	3,278	3,719	2,790	929
October ..	4,828	2,469	4,231	3,833	6,205	2,878	3,327
November ..	4,492	2,167	4,079	4,056	5,650	1,969	3,681
December ..	4,144	3,462	4,682	4,399	9,566	2,444	7,122
January ..	3,820	4,109	4,113	4,423	5,780	4,308	1,472
February ..	3,223	3,268	4,083	3,557	6,226	1,978	4,248
March ..	3,602	6,330	5,313	4,867	11,979	3,124	8,855
April ..	3,643	5,757	4,173	4,580	6,894	3,357	3,537
May ..	2,593	4,768	3,269	4,303	9,056	3,256	5,800
June ..	2,773	3,319	3,918	3,562	10,036	3,113	6,923
1954-55—							
July ..	2,608	3,025	3,230	3,572	8,442	3,120	5,322
August ..	2,910	2,134	2,858	2,694	8,611	1,842	6,769
September ..	4,675	2,654	3,934	3,954	5,759	3,223	2,536
October ..	4,564	2,518	4,507	3,985	13,197	2,375	10,822
November ..	5,643	2,805	4,286	4,515	10,115	2,869	7,246
December ..	4,890	5,014	5,383	4,656	7,919	2,884	5,035
January ..	5,242	3,883	5,113	5,055	13,256	3,338	9,918
February ..	4,299	5,067	4,751	4,502	9,380	3,101	6,279

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN EMPLOYMENT : AUSTRALIA.(a)

('000.)

Month.	Total Civil Employment. (Excluding Rural and Household Domestic.)			Total Employment in Main Industrial Groups.						
	Governmental Authorities.(b)	Private Employers.	Total.	Mining and Quarry- ing.	Fac- to- ries. (c)	Build- ing and Con- struction.	Transport and Communi- cation.	Retail Trade.	Other Com- merce and Finance.	Pro- fes- sional and Personal Services. (d)
MALES.										
1939—July ..	349.8	943.3	1,293.1	52.2	391.5	149.7	185.9	259.7	133.6	
1952—June ..	578.4	1,329.7	1,908.1	58.8	661.6	214.0	299.9	124.8	191.2	173.2
1953—June ..	567.8	1,319.0	1,886.8	58.0	666.3	193.2	295.1	125.0	191.0	174.1
1954—June ..	581.4	1,367.0	1,948.4	58.7	696.1	205.7	300.1	128.4	198.3	176.6
1953—November ..	568.7	1,337.9	1,906.6	58.5	679.4	191.4	296.5	127.8	194.2	175.2
December	569.9	1,340.9	1,910.8	58.4	678.1	191.8	296.4	131.7	194.7	175.8
1954—January ..	568.1	1,344.2	1,912.3	58.1	680.7	191.7	297.6	128.4	196.2	176.2
February ..	571.6	1,348.8	1,920.4	58.3	685.2	194.1	298.3	127.1	197.2	176.4
November ..	583.6	1,381.2	1,964.8	57.7	703.5	203.4	301.5	131.7	203.7	178.1
December	584.7	1,384.3	1,969.0	57.6	702.4	201.0	302.7	134.9	205.0	179.6
1955—January ..	586.0	1,382.4	1,968.4	57.4	703.9	202.1	303.3	130.1	206.6	178.6
February ..	589.4	1,388.2	1,977.6	57.5	707.1	203.8	304.4	129.6	207.2	180.7
FEMALES.										
1939—July ..	55.2	381.9	437.1	0.3	148.2	1.2	12.6	114.9	129.0	
1952—June ..	115.3	564.1	679.4	0.9	199.2	4.2	39.5	112.6	72.9	215.0
1953—June ..	112.0	561.7	673.7	0.9	202.9	4.3	36.2	109.9	71.5	213.5
1954—June ..	114.5	593.0	707.5	1.0	219.8	4.7	36.5	115.3	77.0	218.7
1953—November ..	111.9	582.7	694.6	0.9	213.2	4.5	36.0	116.7	73.2	215.6
December	111.3	590.0	701.3	0.9	213.9	4.5	35.8	122.4	73.5	215.9
1954—January ..	110.7	587.0	697.7	0.9	215.8	4.5	36.0	116.8	74.6	214.8
February ..	113.0	588.3	701.3	1.0	218.5	4.6	36.1	113.5	76.0	217.1
November ..	117.0	610.5	727.5	1.0	224.6	4.7	37.7	123.8	79.2	221.6
December	116.3	615.6	731.9	1.0	224.4	4.7	37.1	128.3	79.1	222.3
1955—January ..	116.2	608.0	724.2	1.0	223.4	4.8	37.6	120.3	80.5	221.5
February ..	119.3	613.5	732.8	1.0	226.8	4.8	38.0	119.5	82.3	224.8
PERSONS.										
1939—July ..	405.0	1,325.2	1,730.2	52.5	539.7	150.9	198.5	374.6	262.6	
1952—June ..	693.7	1,893.8	2,587.5	59.7	860.8	218.2	339.4	237.4	264.1	388.2
1953—June ..	679.8	1,880.7	2,560.5	58.9	869.2	197.5	331.3	234.9	262.5	387.6
1954—June ..	695.9	1,960.0	2,655.9	59.7	915.9	210.4	336.6	243.7	275.3	395.3
1953—November ..	680.6	1,920.6	2,601.2	59.4	892.6	195.9	332.5	244.5	267.4	390.8
December	681.2	1,930.9	2,612.1	59.3	892.0	196.3	332.2	254.1	268.2	391.7
1954—January ..	678.8	1,931.2	2,610.0	59.0	896.5	196.2	333.6	245.2	270.8	391.0
February ..	684.6	1,937.1	2,621.7	59.3	903.7	198.7	334.4	240.6	273.2	393.5
November ..	700.6	1,991.7	2,692.3	58.7	928.1	208.1	339.2	255.5	282.9	399.7
December	701.0	1,999.9	2,700.9	58.6	926.8	205.7	339.8	263.2	284.1	401.9
1955—January ..	702.2	1,990.4	2,692.6	58.4	927.3	206.9	340.9	250.4	287.1	400.1
February ..	708.7	2,001.7	2,710.4	58.5	933.9	208.6	342.4	249.1	289.5	405.5

(a) Excludes Defence Forces, at home or abroad, and National Service Trainees in camp. Estimated total employment is based on Pay-roll Tax returns and records of Government employment. Figures from June, 1952 subject to revision. (b) Includes all employees of Australian Government authorities (Commonwealth, State and Local) on services such as railways, tramways, banks, post office, air transport, education, broadcasting, police, public works, factories and munitions establishments, migrant hostels, &c., as well as administrative employees within Australia. (c) Pay-roll series subject to revision. (d) Includes Education, Health, Hotels and Restaurants, other Professional and Personal Services (except female private domestic).

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN EMPLOYMENT : STATES.(a)

('000.)

Month.		New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queens-land.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Northern Territory.	Australian Capital Territory.	Australia.
MALES.										
1939—July	..	529.9	357.5	172.8	106.7	82.9	37.4	2.1	3.8	1,293.1
1952—June	..	754.4	524.4	258.1	171.5	126.0	61.0	4.4	8.3	1,908.1
1953—June	..	734.3	521.6	255.2	170.6	130.2	61.8	4.6	8.5	1,886.8
1954—June	..	758.1	539.7	263.7	176.0	135.0	62.8	4.9	8.2	1,948.4
1953—October	..	740.0	525.2	255.0	171.8	131.4	61.3	4.8	8.3	1,897.8
November	..	745.0	527.1	255.4	172.8	131.9	61.3	4.8	8.3	1,906.6
December	..	747.8	529.6	252.5	173.2	132.6	61.9	4.9	8.3	1,910.8
1954—January	..	748.1	530.9	251.8	173.5	133.0	61.9	4.9	8.2	1,912.3
February	..	750.0	533.6	254.2	174.4	133.2	61.9	4.8	8.3	1,920.4
October	..	761.9	542.6	264.7	175.5	135.1	62.3	4.9	8.2	1,955.2
November	..	767.4	545.0	264.7	176.0	135.7	62.9	4.8	8.3	1,964.8
December	..	770.0	546.9	263.3	176.5	135.5	63.7	4.8	8.3	1,969.0
1955—January	..	767.8	549.2	260.9	177.5	135.6	64.1	4.9	8.4	1,968.4
February	..	772.7	550.3	264.4	177.5	135.4	64.0	4.8	8.5	1,977.6
FEMALES.										
1939—July	..	168.0	142.9	53.2	34.0	26.2	11.6	0.2	1.0	437.1
1952—June	..	270.5	206.6	83.8	54.9	40.5	19.8	0.8	2.5	679.4
1953—June	..	266.2	205.9	83.7	53.4	41.0	20.1	0.9	2.5	673.7
1954—June	..	279.5	217.7	86.1	56.9	42.8	21.0	0.9	2.6	707.5
1953—October	..	272.2	210.0	84.5	54.5	41.8	19.9	0.9	2.5	686.3
November	..	276.8	212.2	84.5	55.3	42.2	20.2	0.9	2.5	694.6
December	..	278.8	214.6	85.1	56.2	42.6	20.6	0.9	2.5	701.3
1954—January	..	277.0	212.7	84.9	57.0	41.6	21.0	0.9	2.6	697.7
February	..	277.6	215.3	85.3	56.7	42.4	20.5	0.9	2.6	701.3
October	..	286.1	220.4	86.7	58.2	43.5	20.2	0.9	2.7	718.7
November	..	291.0	222.3	87.6	58.6	43.9	20.5	0.9	2.7	727.5
December	..	293.0	223.0	88.3	58.8	44.2	21.0	0.9	2.7	731.9
1955—January	..	287.8	222.3	87.3	59.2	42.8	21.2	0.9	2.7	724.2
February	..	291.5	224.4	88.6	59.8	43.8	21.1	0.9	2.7	732.8
PERSONS.										
1939—July	..	697.9	500.4	226.0	140.7	109.1	49.0	2.3	4.8	1,730.2
1952—June	..	1,024.9	731.0	341.9	226.4	166.5	80.8	5.2	10.8	2,587.5
1953—June	..	1,000.5	727.5	338.9	224.0	171.2	81.9	5.5	11.0	2,560.5
1954—June	..	1,037.6	757.4	349.8	232.9	177.8	83.8	5.8	10.8	2,655.9
1953—October	..	1,012.2	735.2	339.5	226.3	173.2	81.2	5.7	10.8	2,584.1
November	..	1,021.8	739.3	339.9	228.1	174.1	81.5	5.7	10.8	2,601.2
December	..	1,026.6	744.2	337.6	229.4	175.2	82.5	5.8	10.8	2,612.1
1954—January	..	1,025.1	743.6	336.7	230.5	174.6	82.9	5.8	10.8	2,610.0
February	..	1,027.6	748.9	339.5	231.1	175.6	82.4	5.7	10.9	2,621.7
October	..	1,048.0	763.0	351.4	233.7	178.6	82.5	5.8	10.9	2,673.9
November	..	1,058.4	767.3	352.3	234.6	179.6	83.4	5.7	11.0	2,692.3
December	..	1,063.0	769.9	351.6	235.3	179.7	84.7	5.7	11.0	2,700.9
1955—January	..	1,055.6	771.5	348.2	236.7	178.4	85.3	5.8	11.1	2,692.6
February	..	1,064.2	774.7	353.0	237.3	179.2	85.1	5.7	11.2	2,710.4

(a) Excludes Rural, Household Domestic and Defence Forces and National Service Trainees in camp. See also notes on page 6.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS EMPLOYED IN FACTORIES.(a)

Period.	New South Wales.	Vic- to- ria.	Queens- land.	South Aus- tralia.	Western Aus- tralia.	Tas- mania.	Australia.			Index—Av. 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.	Divided by Index of Total Population.
							Males.	Females.	Persons.		
Monthly Average—											
1936-37 ..	197.8	183.0	45.9	39.3	21.4	11.8	359.6	139.6	499.2	950	959
1937-38 ..	215.6	193.6	49.6	42.6	22.0	12.5	387.7	148.2	535.9	1,019	1,019
1938-39 ..	219.5	193.9	51.5	42.0	22.1	13.2	391.8	150.4	542.2	1,031	1,022
1947-48 ..	349.8	268.1	73.0	71.1	34.0	20.3	611.5	204.8	816.3	1,553	1,397
1948-49 ..	358.8	274.9	76.8	73.4	35.2	21.2	628.0	212.3	840.3	1,598	1,408
1949-50 ..	358.8	281.5	79.6	75.7	36.6	21.9	636.9	217.2	854.1	1,624	1,386
1950-51 ..	379.0	290.4	83.2	80.8	38.6	22.2	664.8	229.4	894.2	1,701	1,408
1951-52 ..	377.9	292.2	83.1	81.3	38.8	22.0	672.3	223.0	895.3	1,703	1,369
1952-53 ..	351.4	279.1	82.1	77.2	38.7	21.5	652.7	197.3	850.0	1,617	1,268
1953-54 ..	369.6	296.1	85.0	82.2	40.3	22.4	681.1	214.5	895.6	1,703	1,312
Monthly Total—											
1952-53—											
February ..	351.6	281.5	80.9	77.8	38.9	21.9	652.9	199.7	852.6	1,622	1,268
March ..	354.9	285.1	81.9	78.1	39.5	22.1	657.7	203.9	861.6	1,639	1,278
April ..	356.3	285.1	82.7	78.4	39.8	22.2	661.3	203.2	864.5	1,644	1,280
May ..	357.6	285.2	83.3	78.1	39.9	22.2	663.5	202.8	866.3	1,648	1,282
June ..	358.2	286.0	84.7	78.4	39.9	22.0	666.3	202.9	869.2	1,653	1,284
1953-54—											
July ..	358.7	286.9	85.9	78.3	39.9	21.7	667.2	204.2	871.4	1,657	1,286
August ..	359.4	287.9	86.5	79.0	39.9	21.4	669.0	205.1	874.1	1,662	1,290
September ..	362.3	289.7	86.1	79.6	39.9	21.5	671.4	207.7	879.1	1,672	1,296
October ..	367.1	292.3	85.2	80.1	40.0	21.7	675.3	211.1	886.4	1,686	1,306
November ..	370.2	294.3	85.2	80.9	40.2	21.8	679.4	213.2	892.6	1,698	1,313
December ..	370.5	294.1	82.5	82.3	40.3	22.3	678.1	213.9	892.0	1,696	1,310
January ..	371.0	296.4	81.9	83.9	40.3	23.0	680.7	215.8	896.5	1,705	1,311
February ..	373.7	299.8	83.3	84.0	40.4	22.5	685.2	218.5	903.7	1,719	1,319
March ..	374.9	303.4	84.0	84.6	40.7	23.1	688.3	222.4	910.7	1,732	1,327
April ..	375.0	303.7	84.4	84.7	40.5	23.4	690.2	221.5	911.7	1,734	1,327
May ..	376.0	302.1	86.3	84.4	40.6	23.4	692.4	220.4	912.8	1,736	1,326
June ..	376.7	302.7	88.1	84.3	40.8	23.3	696.1	219.8	915.9	1,742	1,329
1954-55—											
July ..	377.1	303.2	89.0	83.9	40.6	22.8	696.1	220.5	916.6	1,743	1,330
August ..	378.5	303.9	89.0	84.2	40.6	22.3	697.8	220.7	918.5	1,747	1,333
September ..	380.4	304.9	88.8	84.1	40.5	22.2	698.9	222.0	920.9	1,752	1,336
October ..	382.1	306.6	88.0	84.2	40.9	22.2	700.6	223.4	924.0	1,757	1,340
November ..	384.6	308.1	87.6	84.4	41.1	22.3	703.5	224.6	928.1	1,765	1,346
December ..	385.8	308.3	85.7	84.7	41.2	23.1	702.4	224.4	926.8	1,763	1,342
January ..	383.8	309.8	83.0	85.8	41.4	23.5	703.9	223.4	927.3	1,764	1,342
February ..	386.8	311.2	85.2	85.8	41.7	23.2	707.1	226.8	933.9	1,776	1,352

(a) Excludes National Service Trainees in camp. Figures from 1948-49 subject to revision.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS EMPLOYED IN RETAIL TRADE.(a)

('000.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queens- land.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.(b)			
							Males.	Females.	Persons.	
Monthly Average—										
1947-48..	..	91.0	63.4	29.2	21.8	16.3	6.7	121.2	107.6	228.8
1948-49..	..	93.9	65.7	29.9	22.6	17.1	6.9	125.5	111.2	236.7
1949-50..	..	93.4	66.8	30.2	23.1	17.6	7.0	126.7	112.0	238.7
1950-51..	..	97.2	68.8	31.1	23.9	18.2	7.3	129.3	117.8	247.1
1951-52..	..	95.9	68.6	31.3	23.6	18.4	7.3	128.0	117.7	245.7
1952-53..	..	90.1	66.1	30.0	22.4	18.1	7.2	124.2	110.4	234.6
1953-54..	..	93.0	67.5	30.6	23.1	19.0	7.5	127.2	114.0	241.2
Monthly Total—										
1952-53—										
February	..	89.8	66.1	30.0	22.2	18.1	7.2	124.2	109.9	234.1
March	..	89.8	66.2	29.8	21.8	17.9	7.3	123.9	109.6	233.5
April	89.7	66.0	29.9	22.4	18.2	7.3	124.5	109.6	234.1
May	89.9	66.2	30.0	22.3	18.3	7.3	124.8	109.9	234.7
June	89.9	66.1	30.2	22.6	18.4	7.2	125.0	109.9	234.9
1953-54—										
July	89.8	65.4	30.2	22.4	18.4	7.3	124.3	109.8	234.1
August	90.1	65.4	30.1	22.4	18.3	7.3	124.5	109.7	234.2
September	90.1	65.8	30.2	22.6	18.4	7.2	124.8	110.2	235.0
October	90.9	66.4	30.4	22.7	18.7	7.3	125.5	111.5	237.0
November	95.2	67.7	31.0	23.5	19.0	7.6	127.8	116.7	244.5
December	99.1	71.7	31.8	23.4	19.7	7.9	131.7	122.4	254.1
January	95.2	67.5	31.3	23.3	19.3	7.9	128.4	116.8	245.2
February	92.7	67.3	30.3	23.0	19.0	7.6	127.1	113.5	240.6
March	93.0	67.7	30.2	23.1	19.0	7.5	127.3	113.7	241.0
April	92.8	68.1	30.2	23.4	19.1	7.5	127.6	114.1	241.7
May	93.6	68.2	30.4	23.4	19.3	7.5	128.4	114.7	243.1
June	93.6	68.5	30.8	23.4	19.3	7.4	128.4	115.3	243.7
1954-55—										
July	93.2	68.3	30.7	23.3	19.4	7.5	128.0	114.9	242.9
August	93.4	68.1	30.8	23.3	19.2	7.4	128.0	114.9	242.9
September	93.9	68.3	31.0	23.6	19.2	7.6	128.2	115.9	244.1
October	94.8	68.7	31.1	23.7	19.4	7.5	128.2	117.7	245.9
November	100.0	71.0	31.8	24.4	19.8	7.8	131.7	123.8	255.5
December	104.4	72.7	32.5	24.5	20.3	8.1	134.9	128.3	263.2
January	96.4	70.2	31.2	24.5	19.6	7.9	130.1	120.3	250.4
February	95.8	70.0	30.8	24.5	19.4	7.8	129.6	119.5	249.1

(a) Estimates based on Pay-roll Tax returns. Excludes National Service Trainees in camp. Figures subject to revision.
 (b) Includes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory.

AVERAGE WEEKLY TOTAL WAGES PAID AND AVERAGE EARNINGS.

The following figures are derived from employment and wages recorded on Pay-roll Tax returns (which cover approximately 80 per cent. of total employment) and from estimates of the unrecorded balance. Pay of members of the armed forces is not included. The figures are not seasonally adjusted. A seasonally adjusted quarterly index of average weekly wage earnings is published on page 2.

Period.	New South Wales.(a)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.(b)	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
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AVERAGE WEEKLY TOTAL WAGES PAID (£'000).

1947-48	6,976	4,719	2,069	1,369	954	492	16,579
1948-49	8,133	5,540	2,503	1,644	1,120	580	19,520
1949-50	9,018	6,370	2,838	1,894	1,315	672	22,107
1950-51	11,385	7,916	3,501	2,389	1,639	817	27,647
1951-52	14,364	9,816	4,319	3,018	2,108	1,059	34,684
1952-53	15,090	10,490	4,750	3,311	2,344	1,178	37,163
1953-54	16,043	11,305	5,065	3,561	2,586	1,280	39,840
1952-53—							
December Qtr.	15,729	11,017	5,003	3,454	2,394	1,174	38,771
March	14,241	9,932	4,501	3,147	2,288	1,181	35,290
June	15,456	10,828	4,837	3,401	2,413	1,248	38,183
1953-54—							
September	15,654	11,059	4,970	3,483	2,560	1,218	38,944
December	16,753	11,748	5,225	3,640	2,672	1,296	41,334
March	15,303	10,796	4,818	3,447	2,467	1,250	38,081
June	16,463	11,619	5,245	3,673	2,644	1,356	41,000
1954-55—							
September	16,765	11,848	5,344	3,750	2,729	1,277	41,713
December	17,918	12,440	5,612	3,862	2,773	1,345	43,950

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS PER EMPLOYED MALE UNIT (£).(c)

1947-48	7.73	7.80	6.58	7.02	6.87	6.72	7.44
1948-49	8.73	8.84	7.63	8.03	7.75	7.56	8.44
1949-50	9.50	9.78	8.34	8.83	8.65	8.49	9.26
1950-51	11.46	11.70	9.82	10.58	10.23	9.99	11.09
1951-52	14.24	14.20	11.93	13.13	12.80	12.59	13.65
1952-53	15.50	15.46	13.32	14.58	14.13	13.97	14.95
1953-54	16.15	16.27	14.05	15.30	15.04	14.92	15.69
1952-53—							
December Qtr.	16.24	16.30	13.99	15.30	14.55	14.13	15.66
March	14.70	14.60	12.76	13.91	13.75	13.83	14.23
June	15.84	15.86	13.55	14.86	14.31	14.52	15.28
1953-54—							
September	16.01	16.18	13.81	15.19	15.08	14.45	15.55
December	16.87	16.99	14.58	15.81	15.60	15.23	16.33
March	15.33	15.44	13.47	14.67	14.29	14.48	14.94
June	16.38	16.48	14.33	15.52	15.20	15.51	15.93
1954-55—							
September	16.60	16.76	14.41	15.86	15.62	14.91	16.14
December	17.53	17.45	15.14	16.26	15.78	15.51	16.86

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (b) Includes Northern Territory. (c) Total wages as above divided by total civil employment expressed in male units. Male units equals the number of males plus a proportion of females based on the approximate ratio of female to male earnings. The same ratio has been used in each State and because the average ratio of female to male earnings may vary between States, precise comparisons between average earnings in different States cannot be made on the basis of the figures above.

NOTE.—Comparisons as to trend should be made for complete years or corresponding periods of incomplete years. Quarterly totals and averages are affected by seasonal influences.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS.

Compiled from information furnished by the Department of Social Services on the operation of Part VII.
of the Social Services Act 1947-1954.

NUMBER OF PERSONS ON BENEFIT AT END OF EACH MONTH.(a)

Period.	Unemployment.								Sick ness.	Special. (b)
	New South Wales.(c)	Victoria.	Queens- land.	South Australia. (d)	Western Australia.	Tas- mania.	A.C.T. (e)	Australia.	Australia. (f)	Australia. (f)
Monthly Average—										
1947-48 ..	637	140	2,640	49	390	32	..	3,888	8,538	517
1948-49 ..	282	32	1,094	15	121	31	..	1,575	7,614	591
1949-50 ..	8,327	123	1,371	241	155	30	..	10,247	7,585	897
1950-51 ..	287	71	326	6	59	14	..	763	7,059	863
1951-52 ..	949	220	1,374	24	64	16	..	2,647	6,454	993
1952-53 (f)	17,590	6,168	4,281	842	841	262	..	29,984	7,140	1,408
1953-54 (f)	6,495	2,698	3,169	252	406	212	..	13,232	7,994	1,868
Monthly Total—(f)										
1952-53—										
March ..	17,802	4,422	5,882	644	701	223	..	29,674	7,860	1,284
April ..	16,871	5,454	4,972	658	700	250	..	28,905	7,418	1,590
May ..	15,351	5,630	4,333	576	654	243	..	26,787	7,804	1,648
June ..	14,629	5,939	3,677	655	691	323	..	25,914	8,135	1,985
1953-54—										
July ..	14,296	6,052	3,154	728	870	405	..	25,505	8,421	2,050
August ..	12,222	5,549	2,794	596	689	447	..	22,297	8,546	1,846
September ..	9,975	4,567	2,591	427	541	427	..	18,528	8,546	1,875
October ..	7,070	3,314	2,495	289	445	312	..	13,925	8,241	1,871
November ..	5,659	2,367	2,488	224	374	223	..	11,335	8,181	1,868
December ..	5,742	2,202	3,279	198	386	142	..	11,949	7,824	1,839
January ..	5,589	1,920	5,295	132	388	99	..	13,423	7,412	1,833
February ..	4,445	1,539	5,397	99	288	110	..	11,878	7,727	1,862
March ..	3,675	1,277	3,644	93	196	85	..	8,970	7,735	1,838
April ..	3,445	1,229	3,252	77	239	78	..	8,320	7,502	1,825
May ..	3,014	1,161	1,986	79	225	107	..	6,572	7,996	1,853
June ..	2,810	1,203	1,657	79	225	109	..	6,083	7,802	1,852
1954-55—										
July ..	2,627	1,135	1,166	99	198	135	3	5,363	8,301	1,892
August ..	2,226	957	1,081	83	145	147	3	4,642	8,541	1,905
September ..	1,822	757	918	80	162	143	4	3,886	8,496	1,931
October ..	1,334	602	802	55	95	114	5	3,007	8,113	1,933
November ..	1,266	501	916	60	114	113	4	g2,975	8,169	1,931
December ..	1,179	480	1,228	64	136	73	3	3,163	7,890	1,935
January ..	1,248	437	2,165	67	144	52	4	4,117	7,495	1,999
February ..	1,132	363	2,371	57	147	46	3	4,119	7,862	2,028
March ..	1,240	286	2,347	43	131	35	2	g4,086	7,702	2,035

(a) Last Saturday of month. (b) Excludes migrants. (c) Includes Australian Capital Territory prior to July, 1954.
(d) Includes Northern Territory prior to July, 1954. (e) Included with New South Wales prior to July, 1954. (f) As furnished
by the Department of Social Services. (g) Includes Northern Territory, November 1, March 2.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS—*continued.*

NUMBER ADMITTED TO UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT AND AMOUNT PAID IN BENEFITS : AUSTRALIA.

Period.	Number Admitted to Unemployment Benefit.			Amount Paid in Benefits.				
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Unem-ployment.	Sickness.	Special—		Total.
						Migrants.	Ordinary.	
Monthly Average—								
1947–48.. ..	2,273	116	2,389	30,802	65,944	1,319	3,391	101,456
1948–49.. ..	955	56	1,011	11,570	66,319	7,088	4,225	89,202
1949–50.. ..	10,854	2,571	13,425	105,506	68,001	35,361		208,868
1950–51.. ..	881	111	992	5,204	62,143	13,520	5,568	86,435
1951–52.. ..	1,771	520	2,291	15,584	59,157	6,911	2,319	83,971
1952–53.. ..	12,793	1,797	14,590	380,812	116,108	8,172	16,197	521,289
1953–54.. ..	4,368	810	5,178	208,788	139,633	4,561	25,639	378,621
Monthly Total—								
1952–53—								
March ..	8,525	1,249	9,774	479,235	122,060	3,525	14,134	618,954
April ..	9,641	1,299	10,940	413,500	116,520	5,844	15,348	551,212
May ..	10,716	1,698	12,414	489,769	169,313	6,857	23,463	689,402
June ..	8,746	1,371	10,117	467,289	163,285	2,204	25,839	658,617
1953–54—								
July ..	8,233	1,467	9,700	367,739	142,114	7,141	28,352	545,346
August ..	8,153	1,377	9,530	332,777	144,316	2,822	26,808	506,723
September ..	4,772	838	5,610	317,878	153,423	3,734	27,103	502,138
October ..	4,565	845	5,410	265,396	151,519	722	25,720	443,357
November ..	2,919	630	3,549	196,558	146,036	3,355	26,119	372,068
December ..	3,448	523	3,971	178,023	163,169	3,647	27,693	372,532
January ..	6,883	749	7,632	174,118	135,747	7,449	21,595	338,909
February ..	4,310	714	5,024	170,361	121,033	4,538	19,923	315,855
March ..	2,719	645	3,364	171,167	136,753	2,926	25,690	336,536
April ..	2,297	599	2,896	122,952	132,694	3,725	24,150	283,521
May ..	2,389	764	3,153	123,805	138,620	6,826	29,375	298,626
June ..	1,730	564	2,294	84,689	110,169	7,846	25,139	227,843
1954–55—								
July ..	1,756	708	2,464	83,605	138,866	8,727	26,539	257,737
August ..	1,147	524	1,671	69,634	127,933	4,744	23,472	225,783
September ..	927	428	1,355	57,986	148,570	3,142	25,336	235,034
October ..	1,022	486	1,508	44,162	123,395	1,738	20,449	189,744
November ..	842	352	1,194	46,670	146,493	5,362	26,107	224,632
December ..	986	365	1,351	36,282	129,836	3,331	24,385	193,834
January ..	3,248	521	3,769	58,126	135,073	3,392	22,694	219,285
February ..	2,148	463	2,611	59,842	121,882	4,900	24,145	210,769
March ..	2,590	616	3,206	63,793	145,720	1,924	29,517	240,954

RETAIL SALES: HIRE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO BY FINANCE COMPANIES.

The following statistics relate to businesses which finance the sale of goods at retail but do not retail goods themselves. Particulars of agreements originally made between retailers and customers and subsequently assigned to finance companies are not included in agreements made during each quarter nor, up to 31st December, 1953, in balances outstanding. Commencing March, 1954, however, details of balances outstanding on agreements assigned to finance companies were collected and are included in the figures from that date.

AGREEMENTS MADE DURING EACH QUARTER: AUSTRALIA.

Period.	Number of Agreements.	Value of Goods.(a)		Amount Financed.(b)		Average Proportion of Sale Financed.(b) Per cent.
		Total. (£'000.)	Average per Agreement. (£)	Total. (£'000.)	Average per Agreement. (£)	

MOTOR VEHICLES, TRACTORS, ETC.

Quarterly Average—						
1954.. . .	62,994	42,461	674	24,552	390	58
Quarterly Total—						
1954—March	55,017	35,768	650	20,269	368	57
June	62,127	42,010	676	24,705	398	59
September	66,117	44,907	679	25,862	391	58
December	68,714	47,159	686	27,372	398	58

PLANT AND MACHINERY.

Quarterly Average—						
1954.. . .	3,111	1,882	605	1,152	370	61
Quarterly Total—						
1954—March	2,349	1,448	616	844	359	58
June	2,764	1,782	645	1,113	403	62
September	3,354	1,786	532	1,106	330	62
December	3,977	2,512	632	1,545	388	62

HOUSEHOLD AND PERSONAL GOODS.

Quarterly Average—						
1954.. . .	152,860	11,614	76	9,285	61	80
Quarterly Total—						
1954—March	142,946	11,586	81	9,030	63	78
June	147,395	10,195	69	8,227	56	81
September	150,145	10,876	72	8,820	59	81
December	170,955	13,800	81	11,063	65	80

TOTAL (ALL GOODS).

Quarterly Average—						
1954.. . .	218,965	55,957	256	34,989	160	63
Quarterly Total—						
1954—March	200,312	48,802	244	30,143	150	62
June	212,286	53,987	254	34,045	160	63
September	219,616	57,569	262	35,788	163	62
December	243,646	63,471	261	39,980	164	63

(a) Value at net cash or list price (*excluding* hiring charges and insurance).

(b) Excludes hiring charges and insurance.

RETAIL SALES : HIRE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO BY FINANCE COMPANIES—continued.

BALANCES OUTSTANDING AT END OF EACH QUARTER.(a)
(INCLUDING HIRING CHARGES AND INSURANCE.)
(£'000.)

At end of—	New South Wales.(b)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.(c)	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
1953—							
March Quarter ..	34,397	19,388	14,355	7,642	6,048	2,739	84,569
June „ ..	34,972	19,861	15,072	8,016	6,354	2,929	87,204
September „ ..	37,889	21,704	16,107	8,882	6,950	3,239	94,771
December „ ..	43,756	25,097	18,379	10,356	7,978	3,666	109,232
1954—							
March „ (d) ..	47,676	27,546	19,674	11,199	8,548	4,032	118,675
June „ ..	51,443	30,726	22,341	12,483	9,703	4,534	131,230
September „ ..	55,153	34,144	24,018	14,070	10,893	4,991	143,269
December „ ..	62,146	38,681	26,181	15,857	11,986	5,583	160,434

(a) Balances on agreements entered into during the quarter or at any time previously.
(c) Includes Northern Territory.

(b) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

WHOLESALE TRADE.

An indication of fluctuations in the value of wholesale trade is given by the returns made under the Sales Tax Acts. With certain specified exemptions, all goods sold by wholesale in Australia, including imports, are taxable. The returns do not relate to all wholesale trade, as vendors trading only in exempt goods are not required to furnish returns. They do not necessarily cover a constant proportion of all trade. The effects of legislation and administrative changes on the recorded values of taxable and exempt goods respectively are somewhat uncertain, but total recorded sales are affected in smaller degrees. Insufficient information is available to enable adjustment to be made to the crude figures on this account.

(£ million.)

Year.	Average Monthly Net Sales Recorded.			Month.	Monthly Taxable Net Sales at each Rate of Tax.(a)			Monthly Net Sales Recorded.		
	Taxable Goods.	Exempt Goods.	Total.		10%	12½%	16⅔%	Taxable Goods.	Exempt Goods.	Total.
1953-54—										
1936-37 ..	15.4	21.8	37.2	Dec. ..	..	49.5	19.9	69.4	123.8	193.2
1937-38 ..	16.9	23.6	40.5	Jan. ..	..	34.3	12.4	46.7	100.1	146.8
1938-39 ..	16.4	23.4	39.8	Feb. ..	..	37.0	15.1	52.1	110.6	162.7
1946-47 ..	24.6	42.2	66.8	Mar. ..	..	44.1	18.6	62.7	122.0	184.7
1947-48 ..	26.2	53.3	79.5	Apr. ..	..	39.9	17.6	57.5	124.9	182.4
1948-49 ..	30.3	63.1	93.4	May ..	..	40.6	18.4	59.0	124.0	183.0
1949-50 ..	38.0	72.2	110.2	June ..	..	41.1	18.4	59.5	139.0	198.5
1954-55—										
1950-51 ..	45.6	94.9	140.5	July ..	..	40.4	20.0	60.4	126.6	187.0
1951-52 ..	52.0	110.1	162.1	August ..	..	6.9	38.5	18.1	63.5	134.6
1952-53 ..	46.3	111.8	158.1	Sept. ..	..	14.8	36.0	18.2	69.0	140.9
1953-54 ..	57.3	122.2	179.5	Oct. r ..	..	14.4	34.7	17.3	66.4	139.6
				Nov. (b) r ..	..	14.9	37.4	17.6	69.9	144.0
				Dec. (b) ..	..	16.4	38.0	17.0	71.4	141.6
										213.0

(a) On 19th August, 1954, the special rate of 10 per cent. was imposed.

(b) Preliminary and partly estimated.

For meaning of symbols, r, —, see page 1.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : ECONOMIC CLASSES.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Producers' Materials for use in—					Fuels and Lubricants.	Auxiliary Aids to Production.	Munitions and War Stores.			
	Building and Construction.		Rural Industries.	Manufacturing.							
	Class IA.	Class IB.	Class IC.	Class I.	Total.						
Monthly Average—											
1936-37 ..	347	4.0	143	1.7	3,435	39.9	3,925	45.6			
1937-38 ..	472	4.4	155	1.5	4,285	40.2	4,912	46.1			
1938-39 ..	385	4.1	171	1.8	3,599	38.2	4,155	44.1			
1947-48 ..	727	2.6	289	1.0	12,362	43.9	13,378	47.5			
1948-49 ..	1,194	3.5	318	0.9	13,545	39.2	15,057	43.6			
1949-50 ..	2,026	4.5	431	1.0	14,438	32.3	16,895	37.8			
1950-51 ..	3,416	5.5	416	0.7	23,479	38.0	27,311	44.2			
1951-52 ..	4,898	5.6	518	0.6	34,630	39.6	40,046	45.8			
1952-53 ..	1,482	3.5	368	0.9	14,620	34.4	16,470	38.8			
1953-54 ..	1,946	3.4	441	0.8	20,691	36.6	23,078	40.8			
Monthly Total—											
1952-53—											
February ..	1,280	3.1	404	1.0	13,393	32.2	15,077	36.3			
March ..	1,478	3.3	331	0.8	15,620	35.3	17,429	39.4			
April ..	1,525	3.6	337	0.7	14,393	33.3	16,255	37.6			
May ..	1,762	4.0	500	1.1	15,683	35.5	17,945	40.6			
June ..	1,749	4.2	363	0.9	14,483	34.5	16,595	39.6			
1953-54—											
July ..	1,455	2.8	358	0.7	17,737	34.1	19,550	37.6			
August ..	1,866	3.6	364	0.7	18,760	35.9	20,990	40.2			
September ..	1,875	3.5	358	0.7	18,249	34.4	20,482	38.6			
October ..	1,611	3.2	306	0.6	18,018	35.7	19,935	39.5			
November ..	1,626	3.2	383	0.8	18,628	36.7	20,637	40.7			
December ..	2,126	3.6	607	1.0	21,037	35.9	23,770	40.5			
January ..	2,091	3.5	384	0.6	21,257	35.2	23,732	39.3			
February ..	1,556	3.4	444	1.0	17,587	38.4	19,587	42.8			
March ..	2,043	3.0	519	0.8	25,655	38.4	28,217	42.2			
April ..	2,158	4.1	518	1.0	18,318	35.2	20,994	40.3			
May ..	2,421	4.0	410	0.7	22,421	37.3	25,252	42.0			
June ..	2,528	3.3	641	0.8	30,623	40.3	33,792	44.4			
1954-55 p—											
July ..	3,291	4.7	659	0.9	27,176	38.7	31,126	44.3			
August ..	2,886	4.3	721	1.1	22,018	33.0	25,625	38.4			
September ..	2,836	4.0	539	0.8	26,843	38.2	30,218	43.0			
October ..	2,901	4.5	619	1.0	24,525	37.9	28,045	43.4			
November ..	2,404	4.4	407	0.7	20,117	36.8	22,928	41.9			
December ..	3,354	5.2	343	0.6	24,863	38.6	28,560	44.4			
January ..	3,235	4.3	317	0.4	29,734	39.1	33,286	43.8			
February ..	2,877	4.1	540	0.8	28,521	40.8	31,938	45.7			

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : ECONOMIC CLASSES—continued.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Capital Equipment.						Finished Consumer Goods.					
	Producers' Equipment.		Transport Equipment.				Food, Beverages and Tobacco.	Clothing and Accessories.	All Other.		Total.	
			Road Vehicles and Complete Parts.		Railway Equipment Vessels and Civil Aircraft.							
	Class IV.		Class V. B.		Class V. A, C, D.		Class VI. A, B, C.	Class VI. D.	Class VI. E-J.	Class VI.		
Monthly Average		%		%		%		%		%		%
1936-37 ..	884	10.3	872	10.2	146	1.7	516	6.0	46	0.5	1,157	13.4
1937-38 ..	1,149	10.9	1,161	11.0	205	1.9	531	5.0	68	0.6	1,299	12.3
1938-39 ..	1,104	11.7	899	9.5	119	1.3	564	6.0	84	0.9	1,217	12.9
1947-48 ..	2,393	8.5	2,437	8.6	172	0.6	1,617	5.7	280	1.0	3,330	11.9
1948-49 ..	3,409	9.9	4,231	12.2	355	1.0	1,619	4.7	614	1.8	3,714	10.9
1949-50 ..	5,297	11.9	8,643	19.3	497	1.1	2,163	4.8	578	1.3	4,233	9.5
1950-51 ..	6,675	10.8	9,239	14.9	1,137	1.8	2,871	4.7	745	1.2	5,893	9.5
1951-52 ..	9,960	11.4	10,941	12.5	1,661	1.9	3,074	3.5	1,149	1.3	8,377	9.6
1952-53 ..	8,409	19.7	3,569	8.3	1,703	4.0	1,917	4.5	130	0.3	2,369	5.6
1953-54 ..	9,474	16.8	5,769	10.2	1,552	2.7	2,658	4.7	446	0.8	5,691	10.1
Monthly Total—												
1952-53—												
February ..	8,639	20.8	3,002	7.2	1,358	3.3	917	2.2	72	0.2	1,850	4.5
March ..	9,246	20.9	4,159	9.4	2,018	4.6	1,960	4.4	197	0.5	2,865	6.5
April ..	8,790	20.3	3,803	8.8	555	1.3	2,947	6.8	208	0.5	2,931	6.7
May ..	8,130	18.4	3,907	8.8	493	1.1	2,913	6.6	157	0.3	3,037	6.9
June ..	8,032	19.1	4,012	9.6	898	2.1	2,253	5.4	204	0.5	2,898	7.0
1953-54—												
July ..	8,753	16.8	5,247	10.1	799	1.5	3,829	7.4	283	0.5	4,483	8.6
August ..	9,910	19.0	5,584	10.7	1,076	2.0	2,458	4.7	275	0.5	4,494	8.6
September ..	10,001	18.8	5,299	10.0	1,050	2.0	2,069	3.9	384	0.7	4,818	9.1
October ..	8,239	16.3	4,638	9.2	1,657	3.3	2,744	5.4	370	0.7	5,617	11.1
November ..	7,804	15.4	4,889	9.7	1,348	2.6	2,209	4.4	409	0.8	5,357	10.5
December ..	9,200	15.7	5,552	9.5	3,448	5.9	2,545	4.3	443	0.8	6,698	11.4
January ..	10,854	18.0	6,091	10.1	1,202	2.0	3,220	5.3	525	0.9	6,268	10.4
February ..	7,016	15.3	4,773	10.5	1,075	2.4	2,442	5.3	412	0.9	4,763	10.4
March ..	10,794	16.1	6,155	9.2	1,939	2.9	2,816	4.2	798	1.2	7,360	11.0
April ..	10,632	20.4	5,009	9.6	1,312	2.5	2,520	4.8	562	1.1	4,517	8.7
May ..	8,929	14.8	7,220	12.0	1,315	2.2	1,959	3.3	447	0.7	5,819	9.7
June ..	11,554	15.2	8,770	11.5	2,398	3.2	3,084	4.0	444	0.6	8,100	10.7
1954-55 p—												
July ..	10,370	14.7	6,789	9.7	1,698	2.4	3,661	5.2	519	0.7	8,793	12.5
August ..	10,805	16.2	7,059	10.6	1,891	2.8	2,460	3.7	531	0.8	8,587	12.9
September ..	10,345	14.7	7,201	10.2	1,448	2.1	4,160	5.9	640	0.9	8,595	12.2
October ..	10,267	15.9	5,809	9.0	2,346	3.6	2,121	3.3	586	0.9	8,756	13.5
November ..	7,633	14.0	6,280	11.5	1,421	2.6	2,432	4.5	468	0.9	7,241	13.2
December ..	9,446	14.7	6,198	9.6	2,042	3.2	3,208	4.9	608	1.0	7,452	11.6
January ..	11,380	15.0	8,129	10.7	2,216	2.9	3,033	4.0	853	1.1	8,920	11.7
February ..	9,247	13.2	7,244	10.4	2,120	3.0	4,613	6.6	845	1.2	6,839	9.8

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : DEGREE OF MANUFACTURE.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Producers' Materials. (Class I.)			Finished Consumer Goods. (Class VI.)			Total Imports of Merchandise. (All Classes.)			
	Crude.	Simply trans-formed.	Elaborately trans-formed.	Crude.	Simply trans-formed.	Elaborately trans-formed.	Crude.	Simply trans-formed.	Elaborately trans-formed.	Total.
Monthly Average—										
1936-37 ..	1,024	373	2,528	45	303	1,371	1,069	1,505	6,032	8,606
1937-38 ..	1,241	449	3,222	48	300	1,550	1,289	1,796	7,530	10,615
1938-39 ..	1,100	351	2,704	55	309	1,501	1,155	1,627	6,653	9,435
1947-48 ..	2,903	1,803	8,672	107	1,110	4,010	3,010	5,872	19,292	28,174
1948-49 ..	3,273	2,059	9,725	133	899	4,915	3,406	6,738	24,361	34,505
1949-50 ..	3,916	1,777	11,202	180	1,277	5,517	4,096	7,851	32,730	44,677
1950-51 ..	7,012	3,185	17,114	273	1,600	7,636	7,285	10,961	43,577	61,823
1951-52 ..	7,788	4,788	27,469	359	1,446	10,795	8,147	13,933	65,398	87,478
1952-53 ..	4,712	2,195	9,563	251	1,182	2,983	4,963	9,443	28,123	42,529
1953-54 ..	6,260	3,189	13,629	385	1,471	6,909	6,645	11,384	38,514	56,543
Monthly Total—										
1952-53—										
February ..	5,095	1,368	8,614	115	473	2,251	5,210	7,490	28,817	41,517
March ..	4,780	2,212	10,437	199	1,270	3,553	4,979	8,789	30,442	44,210
April ..	5,046	2,308	8,901	482	1,825	3,779	5,528	10,767	26,969	43,264
May ..	5,158	2,709	10,078	320	1,773	4,014	5,478	10,332	28,426	44,236
June ..	5,246	2,194	9,155	331	1,250	3,772	5,577	8,434	27,914	41,925
1953-54—										
July ..	5,168	2,593	11,789	687	1,749	6,166	5,855	11,899	34,292	52,046
August ..	5,421	3,375	12,194	295	1,461	5,461	5,716	10,444	36,083	52,243
September ..	4,806	3,070	12,606	255	1,026	5,995	5,061	11,379	36,633	53,073
October ..	4,754	3,093	12,088	444	1,528	6,744	5,198	11,393	33,924	50,515
November ..	5,615	2,758	12,264	362	1,138	6,474	5,977	11,009	33,688	50,674
December ..	6,400	3,026	14,344	327	1,175	8,222	6,727	10,097	41,828	58,652
January ..	6,324	2,966	14,442	194	2,044	7,765	6,518	12,677	41,194	60,389
February ..	6,447	2,510	10,630	329	1,416	5,475	6,776	8,902	30,084	45,762
March ..										
April ..	7,703	3,740	16,774	509	1,622	8,841	8,212	13,268	45,408	66,888
May ..	7,008	2,519	11,467	491	1,475	5,633	7,499	9,894	34,736	52,129
June ..	6,828	3,669	14,755	256	1,174	6,813	7,084	12,468	40,592	60,144
June ..										
1954-55 p—										
July ..	9,379	4,937	16,810	561	2,473	9,939	9,940	13,734	46,663	70,337
August ..	6,402	3,762	15,461	314	1,440	9,824	6,716	12,513	47,469	66,698
September ..	7,612	4,834	17,772	391	2,998	10,006	8,003	14,169	48,159	70,331
October ..	7,248	5,424	15,373	399	1,079	9,985	7,647	11,873	45,121	64,641
November ..	6,243	4,396	12,289	376	1,344	8,421	6,619	11,154	36,916	54,689
December ..	8,997	4,126	15,437	333	2,295	8,640	9,330	12,149	42,924	64,403
January ..	8,058	5,548	19,680	522	1,534	10,750	8,580	14,444	52,994	76,018
February ..	10,559	4,415	16,964	342	3,370	8,585	10,901	13,448	45,498	69,847

Note.—Class II. consists entirely of goods "simply transformed", and Classes IV., V. and VII. entirely of goods "more elaborately transformed". Class III. is about equally divided between goods "simply" and "more elaborately" transformed.

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Wool.	Wheat and Flour.	Butter.	Sugar and Sugar Syrups.	Meats.	Hides and Skins.	Lead.	Dried Fruits.	Fresh Fruits.	Total Exports of Merchan- dise.
Monthly Average—										
1936-37..	5,209	2,029	734	309	861	609	402	172	165	12,316
1937-38..	3,915	2,245	898	336	1,021	516	409	224	171	11,719
1938-39..	3,561	1,106	1,074	348	982	342	356	239	169	10,128
1947-48..	12,396	7,053	1,719	264	1,882	1,030	1,148	213	324	33,749
1948-49..	19,283	8,202	1,984	1,108 (a)	2,388	1,017	1,856	288	260	45,092
1949-50..	26,096	7,376	2,056	1,185	2,854	1,263	1,416	241	328	50,971
1950-51..	52,779	8,921	1,539	1,240	2,533	2,272	1,796	389	477	81,591
1951-52..	26,953	7,359	383	586	2,957	1,428	2,156	472	572	55,437
1952-53..	33,576	7,449	1,675	1,805	5,481	1,677	2,116	669	791	70,708
1953-54..	34,351	5,059	1,333	2,617	4,812	1,625	1,999	617	774	67,653
Monthly Total—										
1952-53—										
February ..	31,824	5,050	1,257	2,650	4,652	1,876	1,708	17	172	64,800
March ..	48,681	10,097	2,267	3,011	4,855	1,525	1,660	153	1,068	89,994
April ..	38,580	10,348	1,502	1,782	4,308	1,996	2,151	1,520	2,347	79,079
May ..	31,493	9,534	1,499	962	4,431	1,966	1,470	1,915	3,012	72,744
June ..	32,484	12,141	1,336	250	5,289	1,633	1,629	1,092	679	74,045
1953-54—										
July ..	32,461	12,899	820	1,110	7,501	1,728	2,172	1,483	414	76,435
August ..	12,174	5,391	685	3,514	6,925	1,551	1,885	1,210	168	48,362
September ..	23,591	4,972	512	4,191	5,071	1,939	3,280	526	68	59,300
October ..	50,890	4,648	1,241	4,841	4,731	1,904	1,804	388	130	85,810
November ..	49,565	5,728	2,445	4,806	5,230	1,474	1,888	369	147	84,833
December ..	48,195	2,770	1,190	3,898	4,925	1,453	1,938	107	115	78,227
January ..	29,928	4,339	1,476	3,210	3,582	1,569	1,576	43	40	58,015
February ..	31,981	3,491	1,608	2,011	3,036	1,215	1,383	43	120	57,410
March ..	49,350	4,507	1,850	1,726	3,629	1,830	2,896	32	1,454	85,238
April ..	34,904	2,529	1,971	1,475	3,444	1,571	1,602	784	3,270	65,276
May ..	23,906	5,188	1,404	144	4,469	1,643	1,622	1,471	2,597	57,829
June ..	25,272	4,250	797	479	5,201	1,625	1,943	943	770	55,096
1954-55 p—										
July ..	21,298	3,859	374	1,977	6,067	1,702	1,396	1,313	347	51,962
August ..	8,947	4,777	404	4,222	5,862	1,355	3,613	1,301	165	43,843
September ..	21,003	3,954	1,084	4,809	6,083	2,069	1,679	766	67	54,719
October ..	39,333	5,376	1,963	2,983	6,096	1,818	2,183	845	143	72,792
November ..	25,773	4,328	1,754	1,552	5,074	1,070	1,942	119	116	50,716
December ..	43,937	7,327	4,278	3,546	8,374	2,156	2,212	402	115	84,825
January ..	30,666	4,983	3,349	2,812	5,584	1,391	1,835	265	36	63,851
February ..	32,442	8,207	3,194	3,190	4,923	1,794	1,368	363	239	67,643

(a) Prior to July, 1948, included soups (1948-49 monthly average exports £92,000).

For meaning of symbols p, —, see page 1

EXPORT PRICE INDEXES.

These index numbers are compiled from the prices of 20 commodities which normally constitute about 80 per cent. of all exports. For some metals and for wheat (from July, 1945 to September, 1951), the index of prices is deduced from average value of current sales or shipments and hence shows some irregularity.

SIMPLE AGGREGATIVE INDEX : FIXED WEIGHTS.

In this index the prices of the commodities are multiplied by the average annual exports (production in the case of gold) during the three years 1933-34 to 1935-36.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Wool.	Wheat. (a)	Butter.	Metals. (b)	Meats. (c)	Sugar.	Dried Fruits. (d)	Tallow.	Hides. (e)	Gold. (f)	All Groups.	
											Excl. Gold.	Incl. Gold.
Percentage Distribution of Base Aggregate } (g)	45.63	17.06	11.36	6.83	6.63	2.40	1.81	0.64	0.66	6.98	..	100.00
Base Aggregate } (h)	49.05	18.34	12.21	7.34	7.13	2.58	1.94	0.69	0.72	..	100.00	..
1936-37	..	122	123	92	120	98	104	103	122	113	99	116
1937-38	..	99	111	107	96	106	92	103	100	100	98	102
1938-39	..	79	66	101	84	96	104	94	78	87	103	82
1947-48	..	287	420	193	372	146	320	157	436	364	122	296
1948-49	..	365	413	233	478	171	343	162	499	421	122	348
1949-50	..	473	400	250	421	196	369	176	400	479	164	399
1950-51	..	999	432	271	689	209	410	226	356	752	176	690
1951-52	..	564	436	291	811	263	464	302	451	486	184	495
1952-53	..	616	445	313	504	314	501	297	358	369	186	505
1953-54	..	615	p411	325	450	338	479	p287	321	336	179	p496
1952-53—												
February	..	626	454	313	475	321	501	300	295	375	186	510
March	..	656	454	313	463	321	501	290	298	364	185	523
April	..	671	454	313	418	321	501	290	284	344	185	527
May	..	701	454	313	407	321	501	290	252	352	184	541
June	..	641	454	313	429	321	500	290	249	326	181	513
1953-54—												
July	..	(i) 641	454	325	446	331	500	290	244	319	183	516
August	..	(i) 634	446	325	450	331	500	290	251	321	182	511
September	..	626	443	325	438	331	500	290	260	336	182	506
October	..	634	428	325	450	340	500	290	269	374	181	509
November	..	634	414	325	458	340	500	290	301	383	176	508
December	..	611	413	325	442	340	500	290	341	377	177	495
January	..	603	411	325	427	340	461	290	369	377	176	489
February	..	581	402	325	423	340	461	290	368	353	177	455
March	..	581	399	325	440	340	461	p281	355	327	176	p476
April	..	(i) 596	381	325	467	340	461	p281	364	300	176	p482
May	..	618	372	325	474	340	461	p281	369	281	178	p492
June	..	622	p369	325	484	340	448	p281	359	278	178	p494
1954-55—												
July	..	(i) 622	p359	313	475	340	448	p278	354	264	178	p490
August	..	566	p358	313	475	340	448	p262	350	254	178	p461
September	..	566	p355	313	498	340	448	p261	350	224	178	p462
October	..	536	p356	313	524	340	p468	p260	p350	216	178	p450
November	..	513	p358	313	518	340	p468	p261	p350	204	179	p439
December	..	532	p359	313	512	385	p468	p263	p350	197	178	p451
January	..	p520	p360	313	516	p371	p430	p266	p350	200	178	p444
February	..	p528	p356	313	522	p349	p430	p267	p350	200	178	p447

(a) From October, 1951, to July, 1953, the prices used for wheat are the estimated average realizations after weighting prices of quota and non-quota wheat. Prices adopted for months since August, 1953, are derived from available information of current sales.

(b) Silver, copper, tin, zinc, lead. (c) Beef, lamb, mutton, pork. (d) Sultanas, lexisias, currants. (e) Cattle hides, calf skins.

(f) Where Australian gold has been sold on the oversea premium markets such price has been used in the index. (g) For all Groups (including Gold)—applicable from 1936-37. (h) For all Groups (excluding Gold)—applicable from 1936-37. (i) Nominal.

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

EXPORT PRICE INDEXES—continued.

RECENT TRENDS—EXPORT PRICE INDEX—WOOL AND "OTHER GROUPS".

Reference to the group indexes in the table on page 19 hereof shows the great fluctuations and the wide dispersion of prices of export commodities in recent years. In particular, very great movements upwards and downwards have occurred in the price of wool. Since wool is a predominant export (and comprises 46 per cent. of the Base Aggregate of the index) fluctuations in wool prices obscure the movements affecting the other components in the All Groups index. For purposes of comparison they are shown separately below.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	1947-48.			1948-49.			1949-50.			1950-51.		
	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.
July ..	a196	255	228	a351	316	332	a339	277	305	a592	333	451
August ..	241	258	251	a351	313	330	a347	284	313	864	340	579
September ..	249	261	255	355	308	329	339	292	314	890	355	599
October ..	260	262	261	328	314	320	392	305	345	890	360	602
November ..	275	268	271	366	313	337	419	305	357	965	366	639
December ..	a275	274	275	400	308	350	456	307	375	973	366	643
January ..	313	286	298	400	310	351	562	310	425	1,252	368	771
February ..	328	291	308	411	305	353	536	315	416	1,339	369	811
March ..	a302	296	299	a411	304	353	524	316	411	1,437	377	860
April ..	313	300	306	332	294	311	a554	324	429	1,094	384	708
May ..	332	305	317	336	291	311	611	328	457	973	385	653
June ..	362	309	333	339	288	311	592	331	450	717	383	535
Average of Year	287	280	283	365	305	332	473	308	383	999	365	654

Period	1951-52.			1952-53.			1953-54.			1954-55.		
	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.
July ..	a717	400	544	a566	381	465	a641	369	493	a622	p338	p468
August ..	551	400	468	a566	380	465	a634	367	488	566	p338	p442
September ..	498	400	445	551	379	457	626	365	484	566	p339	p442
October ..	686	403	532	588	370	469	634	363	486	536	p344	p431
November ..	603	398	492	588	368	469	634	360	485	513	p343	p421
December ..	581	403	484	618	376	486	611	358	473	532	p348	p432
January ..	566	402	477	618	376	486	603	354	468	p520	p346	p425
February ..	520	402	456	626	371	487	581	350	455	p528	p346	p428
March ..	460	400	427	656	369	500	581	p351	p456			
April ..	475	397	432	671	363	503	a596	p348	p461			
May ..	543	385	457	701	361	516	618	p346	p470			
June ..	566	376	463	641	363	490	622	p346	p472			
Average of Year	564	397	473	616	371	483	615	p356	p474			

(a) Nominal.

NOTE.—The index numbers in the two preceding tables indicate satisfactorily the trends of export prices, but take no account of the relative quantities actually sold at the different prices ruling during each month. The impact of the price movements on current sales is indicated more directly by the index numbers below. In computing these the "quantity multipliers" are the quantities actually exported in the months (or periods) to which the index numbers relate. The index numbers for the most recent available month are :—

All Groups.	Month of February.		Eight months ended February.	
	1954.	1955.	1954.	1955.
Excluding Wool ..	100	100	100	96
Including Wool ..	100	94	100	91

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

WHOLESALE PRICE (BASIC MATERIALS AND FOODSTUFFS) INDEX

Commodities in this index are priced in their primary or basic form wherever possible. The prices used have in the main been obtained directly from manufacturers and merchants, and, with a few important exceptions, from Melbourne sources. Apart from locally-produced building materials and one or two minor commodities, however, the price movements may be taken as representative of variations in wholesale prices of basic materials in most Australian markets. The weighting system adopted is based on estimates of the average annual consumption of the commodities in Australia during the years 1928-29 to 1934-35 inclusive.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Basic Materials.						Food-stuffs and Tobacco.	Basic Materials and Foodstuffs.		
	Metals and Coal.	Oils, Fats and Waxes.	Textiles.	Chemicals.	Rubber and Hides.	Building Materi-als.		Goods principally Imported (a)	Goods principally Home Produced.	Total All Groups.
1936-37 ..	96	99	118	99	111	99	99	99	98	98
1937-38 ..	101	101	100	100	97	104	102	102	100	101
1938-39 ..	103	100	82	101	92	97	99	99	102	101
1947-48 ..	146	161	283	148	126	190	166	153	192	145
1948-49 ..	185	173	342	159	130	198	188	175	201	173
1949-50 ..	214	184	434	187	143	225	214	198	223	198
1950-51 ..	256	196	641	242	292	268	264	232	256	242
1951-52 ..	343	220	577	314	298	370	321	281	288	305
1952-53 ..	392	234	607	350	224	404	350	294	292	331
1953-54 ..	388	222	566	323	191	363	332	313	271	343
1952-53—										
February ..	391	235	611	355	212	391	348	290	289	328
March ..	393	235	640	355	212	391	350	289	290	328
April ..	392	235	643	348	203	391	349	299	288	336
May ..	391	233	661	349	203	364	344	301	279	338
June ..	392	233	621	348	199	364	342	305	283	338
1953-54—										
July ..	391	225	583	329	198	365	336	315	275	346
August ..	389	226	581	329	198	365	335	336	275	360
September ..	389	226	576	329	199	364	335	331	276	357
October ..	389	226	576	327	198	364	334	325	273	353
November ..	388	223	574	327	197	365	333	311	270	342
December ..	388	223	561	327	192	365	332	304	269	337
January ..	384	223	564	327	190	365	331	305	271	336
February ..	384	221	546	317	187	365	328	306	269	336
March ..	389	222	545	317	183	365	330	304	269	335
April ..	390	217	553	316	186	359	328	306	266	337
May ..	390	217	563	316	184	359	329	306	266	338
June ..	384	218	569	316	182	358	327	308	267	337
1954-55—										
July ..	384	217	569	313	183	358	327	308	266	337
August ..	384	216	529	313	205	358	325	308	267	336
September ..	385	216	527	313	232	365	327	308	271	336
October ..	385	211	505	313	240	365	325	303	269	332
November ..	393	211	491	314	240	365	327	305	277	331
December ..	393	212	507	315	225	365	328	307	277	333
January ..	396	215	p501	315	237	365	p330	p305	p279	p332
February ..	399	215	p505	315	257	373	p333	p313	p281	p340

(a) Represents only such imported commodities as are included in the wholesale price index. This index does not measure changes in price of imports generally.

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES : VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

(Base : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Australia.	Canada.	France.	India.	New Zealand.	South Africa.	Sweden.	United Kingdom.	U.S.A.
	Bureau of Census and Statistics.	Dominion Bureau of Statistics.	Inst. Nat. de la Stat.	Economic Adviser to the Government of India.	Census and Statistics Department.	Bureau of Census and Statistics.	Board of Trade.	Board of Trade.	Bureau of Labour Statistics. (a)
1936-37 ..	98	101	83	104	96	97	98	100	104
1937-38 ..	101	104	105	100	102	103	103	104	101
1938-39 ..	101	95	112	96	102	100	99	96	95
1949-50 ..	205	195	2,196	(b) 389	184	195	198	237	186
1950-51 ..	246	224	(c) 123	426	210	216	237	288	211
1951-52 ..	300	229	145	414	243	252	285	321	213
1952-53 ..	320	216	141	386	252	269	278	320	209
1953-54 ..	321	214	137	397	248	270	268	320	209
1953-54—									
May ..	316	213	139	396	246	269	268	323	210
June ..	316	213	135	382	247	271	270	325	208
1954-55—									
July ..	316	212	134	381	248	271	269	325	209
August ..	316	211	136	382	247	272	268	322	209
September ..	317	210	135	384	248	273	267	321	208
October ..	313	209	134	382	248	273	268	321	207
November ..	315	210	135	376	249	272	270	323	208
December ..	317	210	135	368	250	272	271	328	207
January ..	p316	211		364		272		330	208
February ..	p322			361		275		p331	209

(a) New Series (linked as at January, 1947, to former series to show movement prior to that date).
prior to July, 1947. Thereafter "General Purpose Series", on base : Year ended August, 1939 = 100.
1949 = 100.

(b) "Sensitive Series"

(c) New Series. Base :

RETAIL PRICE INDEXES : VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

(Base : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100 (a).)

Period.	Australia.	Canada.	New Zealand.	South Africa.	United Kingdom.(a)	United States of America.
	Bureau of Census and Statistics.	Dominion Bureau of Statistics.	Census and Statistics Department.	Bureau of Census and Statistics.	Ministry of Labour.	Bureau of Labour Statistics.
1936-37 ..	97.3	98	96	97	Base :	100
1937-38 ..	99.8	102	101	101	17th June,	101
1938-39 ..	102.9	100	103	102	1947=100.	99
1948-49 ..	152.8	158	142	155	(b) 109	170
1949-50 ..	166.9	160	146	159	113	166
1950-51 ..	190.6	172	159	168	118	178
1951-52 ..	233.7	186	176	182	(c) 131	186
1952-53 ..	255.0	184	185	194	139	189
1953-54 ..	262.2	184	195	199	140	190
1954-55—						
July ..	261.8	185	199	199	145	191
August ..		186		200	144	190
September ..		186		203	143	190
October ..		186		203	144	190
November ..	263.1	186	199	204	145	190
December ..		185		204	145	189
January ..		185		204	146	189
February ..	264.9	185	201	205	146	189
March ..						

(a) For bases of series for the United Kingdom, see notes (b) and (c). (b) New series on base 17th June, 1947 = 100 ; cannot be linked to former series. (c) From the month of February, 1952, the new series on base 15th January, 1952 = 100 has been linked to former series on base 17th June, 1947 = 100.

For meaning of symbols p, —, see page 1.

"C" SERIES RETAIL PRICE INDEX AND WAGE-RATE INDEXES.

In the tables on this and the following page the index numbers have been recomputed uniformly to the base average 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000 in order to facilitate comparisons with other data. The absolute index numbers differ, in consequence, from those appearing in other publications of the Bureau.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.)

Period.	Retail Price Indexes : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities.					Weekly Wage-rate Indexes : Six States.	
	Food and Groceries.	Rent of 4 and 5 roomed houses.	Clothing.	Miscellaneous.	Food, &c., Rent, Clothing and Miscellaneous ("C" Series).	Nominal Rates, Adult Males.	"Real" Wage, Adult Males. (a)
1936-37	963	968	976	996	973	949	976
1937-38	989	1,001	1,006	1,003	998	1,007	1,009
1938-39	1,048	1,031	1,018	1,001	1,029	1,044	1,015
1947-48	1,333	1,056	2,013	1,279	1,392	1,565	1,124
1948-49	1,531	1,058	2,264	1,349	1,528	1,757	1,150
1949-50	1,664	1,063	2,626	1,443	1,669	1,913	1,146
1950-51	1,998	1,076	3,044	1,597	1,906	2,298	1,206
1951-52	2,694	1,104	3,623	1,898	2,337	2,806	1,201
1952-53	2,950	1,194	3,893	2,124	2,550	3,104	1,217
1953-54	3,073	1,255	3,938	2,148	2,622	3,207	1,223
1949-50—							
March Quarter ..	1,685	1,063	2,636	1,461	1,682	1,927	1,146
June ,"	1,740	1,065	2,764	1,473	1,730	1,976	1,142
1950-51—							
September Quarter	1,809	1,066	2,831	1,492	1,773	2,026	1,143
December ,"	1,932	1,068	2,946	1,555	1,853	2,291	1,236
March ,"	2,048	1,084	3,040	1,630	1,932	2,367	1,225
June ,"	2,203	1,087	3,357	1,710	2,067	2,507	1,213
1951-52—							
September Quarter	2,444	1,091	3,463	1,787	2,191	2,629	1,200
December ,"	2,644	1,094	3,582	1,870	2,303	2,771	1,203
March ,"	2,751	1,105	3,658	1,905	2,366	2,878	1,216
June ,"	2,937	1,124	3,789	2,031	2,488	2,946	1,184
1952-53—							
September Quarter	2,966	1,156	3,808	2,103	2,524	3,054	1,210
December ,"	2,908	1,181	3,884	2,121	2,530	3,102	1,226
March ,"	2,943	1,212	3,912	2,134	2,558	3,110	1,216
June ,"	2,981	1,227	3,967	2,138	2,586	3,150	1,218
1953-54—							
September Quarter	3,073	1,235	3,946	2,141	2,618	3,195	1,220
December ,"	3,092	1,243	3,933	2,147	2,624	3,206	1,222
March ,"	3,070	1,255	3,946	2,157	2,624	3,213	1,224
June ,"	3,055	1,286	3,927	2,148	2,621	3,214	1,226
1954-55—							
September Quarter	3,037	1,301	3,924	2,145	2,618	3,213	1,227
December ,"	3,063	1,306	3,939	2,147	2,631	r3,233	r1,229
March ,"	3,124	1,310	3,934	2,132	2,649	p3,259	p1,230

(a) Index of nominal weekly wage rates for adult males divided by the "C" Series Retail Price index number.

For meaning of symbols p, r, see page 1.

"C" SERIES RETAIL PRICE INDEX, HOURS AND WAGES.

(Hours and Wages relate to Adult Males.)

Particulars.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Six Capitals or Six States.
1954 : March Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	2,697	2,595	2,466	2,549	2,648	2,748	2,624
Nominal weekly wage (a) ..	3,307	3,157	3,081	3,108	3,260	3,311	3,213
"Real" .. (a) ..	1,226	1,217	1,249	1,219	1,231	1,205	1,224
Average weekly hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (b)	243/-	235/-	218/-	231/-	236/-	242/-	236/-
State	(b) 243/-	(c) 238/-	(d) 225/-	(b) 231/-	(e) 246/6	(b) 242/-	..
1954 : June Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	2,676	2,588	2,439	2,554	2,791	2,709	2,621
Nominal weekly wage (a) ..	3,309	3,151	3,098	3,108	3,260	3,311	3,214
"Real" .. (a) ..	1,237	1,218	1,270	1,217	1,168	1,222	1,226
Average weekly hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (b)	243/-	235/-	218/-	231/-	236/-	242/-	236/-
State	(b) 243/-	(c) 237/-	(d) 225/-	(b) 231/-	(e) 246/6	(b) 242/-	..
1954 : September Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	2,675	2,563	2,425	2,581	2,833	2,700	2,618
Nominal weekly wage (a) ..	3,309	3,146	3,102	3,108	3,260	3,311	3,213
"Real" .. (a) ..	1,237	1,227	1,279	1,204	1,151	1,226	1,227
Average weekly hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (b)	243/-	235/-	218/-	231/-	236/-	242/-	236/-
State	(b) 243/-	(c) 236/-	(d) 225/-	(b) 231/-	(e) 246/6	(b) 242/-	..
1954 : December Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	2,697	2,572	2,456	2,587	2,822	2,697	2,631
Nominal weekly wage (a) p ..	r3,326	r3,170	3,106	r3,146	3,270	r3,335	r3,233
"Real" .. (a) p ..	r1,233	r1,233	1,265	r1,216	1,159	r1,237	r1,229
Average weekly hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (b)	243/-	235/-	218/-	231/-	236/-	242/-	236/-
State	(b) 243/-	(c) 234/-	(d) 225/-	(b) 231/-	(e) 246/6	(b) 242/-	..
1955 : March Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series ..	(a) 2,712	2,596	2,475	2,605	2,835	2,724	2,649
Nominal weekly wage (a) ..	3,355	3,201	3,123	3,163	3,290	3,365	3,259
"Real" .. (a) ..	1,237	1,233	1,262	1,214	1,160	1,235	1,230
Federal metrop. basic wage (b)	243/-	235/-	218/-	231/-	236/-	242/-	236/-
State	(b) 243/-	(c) 235/-	(d) 225/-	(b) 231/-	(e) 246/6	(b) 242/-	..

(a) Base : Weighted Average Six Capitals (Retail Prices) or Six States (Wages and Hours) Average 3 years ended June, 1939=1,000.
 Retail prices index numbers are for the capital cities. (b) Automatic adjustments discontinued. The rates shown came into operation from beginning of first pay period commencing August, 1953. (c) Payable as from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in the second month of the quarter shown. (d) Payable as from 1st February, 1954. (e) Payable as from 27th July, 1953.

For meaning of symbols r, p, .., see page 1.

INTERIM RETAIL PRICE INDEX.

The list of items covered by the Interim Index is representative of a high proportion of expenditure of wage earner households. It is more comprehensive than that of the "C" Series Index and some of the principal food weights and group weights differ substantially from those used in the "C" Series Index. The weighting pattern and the list of component items in the "C" Series Index are relevant to the pre-war pattern of wage earner expenditure and consumption, whilst those of the Interim Index are relevant to conditions now current.

(Base of each Group : Year 1952-53 = 100.)

Period.	Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities.				
	Food.	Clothing and Drapery.	Rent.	Other Items.	Total All Groups.
Year ended June—1951	67.9	78.1	90.3	76.3	74.9
1952	89.4	93.8	92.6	91.3	91.4
1953	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1954	103.7	101.6	105.0	100.9	102.5
Quarter ended—					
1953—March	100.0	100.4	101.4	100.6	100.4
June	101.7	102.0	102.6	100.7	101.6
September	103.9	101.5	103.3	101.0	102.4
December	103.4	101.6	103.9	100.5	102.2
1954—March	104.0	101.8	104.9	101.2	102.7
June	103.7	101.5	107.7	100.9	102.7
September	103.0	101.6	108.9	101.2	102.7
December	103.7	102.3	109.3	101.2	103.2
1955—March	105.3	102.3	109.7	101.2	103.8

FARM PRODUCTION PRICE INDEXES.

The annual index numbers shown in the following table relate to average "prices" of farm products realized in the principal markets of Australia. The "price" data used are average unit values for the total quantities of the relevant commodities produced or marketed in each year and the index numbers therefore measure both the effects of changes in prices (as such) and of variations in the quality, type, usage, &c., of products marketed. The index numbers for any year relate to the average values of farm products produced or marketed in that year, irrespective of the periods in which payment is received by producers.

The index numbers shown below are the Revised Series (December, 1952) in which average quantities of each product marketed in the period 1946-47 to 1950-51 have been used as fixed weights.

The preliminary index numbers for 1953-54 and 1954-55 are based mainly on the recorded or estimated movement in average values for the major farm products. They will be reviewed from time to time as further "price" data become available.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Year.	Agriculture.	Pastoral.	Farmyard and Dairying.	All Farming.	Wool (Shorn and Dead).	Products Other than Wool.
1936-37	114	115	93	109	126	104
1937-38	98	98	102	99	95	100
1938-39	88	87	105	92	79	96
1946-47	194	182	157	185	187	185
1947-48	267	263	183	247	301	230
1948-49	234	313	197	260	366	225
1949-50	272	396	228	316	483	261
1950-51	291	818	258	505	1,098	308
1951-52	355	501	332	410	552	363
1952-53	364	531	387	440	623	379
1953-54	325	536	396	430	621	367
1954-55	334	509	368	415	537	374

SHARE PRICE INDEXES.

In comparing movements in the two sets of index numbers on this page, attention should be paid to differences in the methods by which they have been constructed, and in the nature of the companies and the types of shares included in each index. These are outlined in the footnotes to the table.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.)

Period.	New South Wales : Ordinary Shares.(a)							Queensland : Ordinary Shares.(b)		
	23 Manufacturing and Distribut- ing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	8 Public Utility Companies.	5 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	5 Insurance Companies.	75 Companies (including 24 Miscel- laneous).	34 Active shares in- cluded in foregoing. (c)	12 Industrials.	12 Financial and Trading.	24 Total of foregoing.
1936-37 ..	989	1,059	1,010	1,106	1,052	1,022	1,026	1,006	1,000	1,003
1937-38 ..	1,012	1,008	1,026	1,053	983	1,009	1,011	1,014	1,011	1,013
1938-39 ..	999	933	964	841	965	969	963	980	989	984
1947-48 ..	1,666	1,663	1,044	1,229	1,505	1,450	1,450	1,625	1,386	1,515
1948-49 ..	1,682	1,601	948	1,240	1,635	1,426	1,413	1,681	1,364	1,536
1949-50 ..	1,763	1,603	887	1,357	1,920	1,491	1,458	1,746	1,370	1,573
1950-51 ..	2,242	1,932	928	1,926	2,492	1,845	1,763	2,108	1,623	1,886
1951-52 ..	2,040	1,658	872	1,606	2,625	1,662	1,537	1,838	1,402	1,638
1952-53 ..	1,733	1,376	861	1,337	2,059	1,398	1,335	1,494	1,186	1,353
1953-54 ..	1,784	1,534	881	1,385	2,217	1,475	1,443	1,658	1,302	1,495
1952-53—										
March ..	1,755	1,441	864	1,343	2,006	1,412	1,347	1,570	1,254	1,424
April ..	1,733	1,411	844	1,323	1,985	1,394	1,317	1,539	1,222	1,394
May ..	1,734	1,396	850	1,311	1,975	1,391	1,322	1,555	1,224	1,403
June ..	1,745	1,411	866	1,326	2,030	1,405	1,342	1,580	1,228	1,418
1953-54—										
July ..	1,773	1,413	871	1,360	2,086	1,425	1,377	1,610	1,242	1,442
August ..	1,784	1,456	871	1,387	2,171	1,451	1,411	1,635	1,245	1,456
September	1,780	1,483	876	1,381	2,185	1,460	1,429	1,647	1,265	1,472
October ..	1,745	1,508	859	1,345	2,203	1,445	1,409	1,660	1,276	1,483
November	1,733	1,509	856	1,345	2,193	1,441	1,403	1,671	1,280	1,492
December	1,760	1,523	842	1,361	2,227	1,458	1,424	1,676	1,294	1,501
January ..	1,810	1,566	866	1,357	2,314	1,500	1,480	1,665	1,313	1,503
February	1,812	1,574	887	1,358	2,375	1,509	1,481	1,675	1,330	1,517
March ..	1,805	1,554	927	1,386	2,372	1,508	1,475	1,667	1,326	1,511
April ..	1,778	1,566	921	1,392	2,143	1,483	1,457	1,664	1,341	1,516
May ..	1,793	1,611	895	1,445	2,187	1,499	1,479	1,659	1,351	1,517
June ..	1,830	1,650	897	1,498	2,143	1,516	1,493	1,667	1,358	1,525
1954-55—										
July ..	1,893	1,716	907	1,544	2,212	1,558	1,545	1,696	1,397	1,559
August ..	1,946	1,791	931	1,647	2,260	1,615	1,593	1,729	1,413	1,584
September	1,934	1,828	925	1,595	2,190	1,610	1,576	1,719	1,421	1,582
October ..	1,907	1,832	900	1,491	2,196	1,593	1,554	1,697	1,430	1,575
November	1,887	1,825	895	1,446	2,159	1,577	1,545	1,668	1,423	1,556
December	1,878	1,842	894	1,485	2,120	1,578	1,560	1,672	1,445	1,568
January ..	1,925	1,853	928	1,541	2,162	1,615	1,600	1,675	1,463	1,578
February	1,958	1,874	966	1,553	2,199	1,640	1,625	1,677	1,481	1,587
March ..	1,964	1,940	961	1,553	2,206	1,651	1,629			

(a) Compiled by the New South Wales Government Statistician. The index numbers are based on the prices of the ordinary shares of companies (excluding banking companies) whose business is conducted wholly or largely in New South Wales. They represent unweighted averages of the mean monthly prices per £1 of paid-up capital. Adjustments are made where capital is written off or bonus shares issued. Recomputed from original base, par values. (b) Compiled by the Queensland Bureau of Industry. The index numbers are based on the prices of the ordinary shares of 21 representative Queensland companies, and the preference shares of three companies whose ordinary shares are inactive. The index numbers represent unweighted averages. Mean monthly values are used. Recomputed from original base, April, 1928. (c) These shares relate to leading companies and do not include bank shares or mining shares.

COMPARISON OF PRICE INDEXES.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Export Prices.				Wholesale Prices.				Retail Prices.	
	Wool.	All Groups.			Basic Materials.	Basic Materials and Foodstuffs.			Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities.	
		Excluding Wool.	Excluding Gold.	Total.		Goods Principally Imported. (a)	Goods Principally Home-produced.	All Groups.	"C" Series Index.(b)	Interim Index.(c)
Base : 1952-53 = 100										
1936-37 ..	122	108	116	115	99	99	98	98	97.3	
1937-38 ..	99	105	102	102	102	102	100	101	99.8	
1938-39 ..	79	87	82	83	99	99	102	101	102.9	(Recomputed for purposes of comparison)
1947-48 ..	287	280	296	283	166	192	145	159	139.2	
1948-49 ..	365	305	348	332	188	201	173	181	152.8	
1949-50 ..	473	308	399	383	214	223	198	205	166.9	
1950-51 ..	999	365	690	654	264	256	242	246	190.6	74.8
1951-52 ..	564	397	495	473	321	288	305	300	233.7	91.7
1952-53 ..	616	371	505	483	350	292	331	320	255.0	100.0
1953-54 ..	615	p356	p496	p474	332	271	343	321	262.2	102.8
1952-53—										
April ..	671	363	527	503	349	288	336	322	258.6	101.4
May ..	701	361	541	516	344	279	338	321		101.6
June ..	641	363	513	490	342	283	338	322		
1953-54—										
July ..	(d)641	369	516	493	336	275	346	325	261.8	102.7
August ..	(d)634	367	511	488	335	275	360	335		102.4
September ..	626	365	506	484	335	276	357	333		
October ..	634	363	509	486	334	273	353	329	262.4	102.9
November ..	634	360	508	485	333	270	342	321		102.2
December ..	611	358	495	473	332	269	337	317		
January ..	603	354	489	468	331	271	336	317	262.4	102.7
February ..	581	350	476	455	328	269	336	316		
March ..	581	p351	p476	p456	330	269	335	316		
April ..	(d)596	p348	p482	p461	328	266	337	316	262.1	102.8
May ..	618	p346	p492	p470	329	266	338	316		102.7
June ..	622	p346	p494	p472	327	267	337	316		
1954-55—										
July ..	(d)622	p338	p490	p468	327	266	337	316	261.8	102.6
August ..	566	p338	p461	p442	325	267	336	316		102.7
September ..	566	p339	p462	p442	327	271	336	317		
October ..	536	p344	p450	p431	325	269	332	313	263.1	103.2
November ..	513	p343	p439	p421	327	277	331	315		
December ..	532	p348	p451	p432	328	277	333	317		103.2
January ..	p520	p346	p444	p425	p330	p279	p332	p316	264.9	103.9
February ..	p528	p346	p447	p428	p333	p281	p340	p322		103.8
March ..										

(a) Represents only such imported commodities as are included in the wholesale price index. This index does not measure changes in price of imports generally. (b) Covers Food and Groceries, House Rent, Clothing and Miscellaneous Items. (c) See note at head of page 25.
(d) Nominal.

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

BUILDING PERMITS : SIX CAPITAL CITIES AND SUBURBS.

(As granted by local government authorities. Excludes government buildings except as indicated in note (a), page 31.)

Period.	New Dwellings.		Other New Buildings.		Total New Buildings.		Alterations and Additions.	Total.
	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.		
Monthly Average—		£'000.		£'000.		£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
1936-37 (a) ..	1,122	1,104	154	474	1,276	1,578	408	1,986
1937-38 (a) ..	1,394	1,413	147	472	1,541	1,885	422	2,307
1938-39 (a) ..	1,463	1,509	137	424	1,600	1,933	420	2,353
1946-47 ..	2,209	2,976	156	512	2,365	3,488	596	4,084
1947-48(b) ..	2,381	3,649	124	453	2,505	4,102	585	4,687
1948-49 ..	2,621	4,457	110	440	2,731	4,897	680	5,577
1949-50 ..	3,045	5,770	113	460	3,158	6,230	899	7,129
1950-51 ..	3,558	7,857	151	1,062	3,709	8,919	1,507	10,426
1951-52 ..	2,736	6,703	165	1,270	2,901	7,973	1,727	9,700
1952-53 ..	2,506	6,472	303	1,744	2,809	8,216	1,829	10,045
1953-54 ..	2,663	7,747	328	2,539	2,991	10,286	2,071	12,357
Monthly Total—								
1952-53—								
December ..	2,118	5,403	226	1,201	2,344	6,604	1,655	8,259
January ..	2,030	5,092	183	1,222	2,213	6,314	1,293	7,607
February ..	2,579	6,843	294	1,593	2,873	8,436	1,867	10,303
March ..	2,752	7,397	296	1,280	3,048	8,677	2,381	11,058
April ..	2,331	6,435	327	2,023	2,658	8,458	1,835	10,293
May ..	2,837	7,671	322	2,184	3,159	9,855	1,830	11,685
June ..	2,981	8,254	356	2,793	3,337	11,047	1,931	12,978
1953-54—								
July ..	2,777	7,904	358	3,191	3,135	11,095	2,114	13,209
August ..	2,724	7,910	351	2,241	3,075	10,151	2,190	12,341
September ..	2,810	8,355	377	2,143	3,187	10,498	2,072	12,570
October ..	2,769	7,796	325	2,097	3,094	9,893	1,845	11,738
November ..	2,746	7,697	363	2,491	3,109	10,188	1,696	11,884
December ..	2,149	6,653	269	2,164	2,418	8,817	1,418	10,235
January ..	2,116	6,209	224	1,209	2,340	7,418	1,523	8,941
February ..	2,301	6,729	272	2,062	2,573	8,791	2,816	11,607
March ..	2,996	8,568	366	3,016	3,362	11,584	2,169	13,753
April ..	2,835	8,002	338	3,372	3,173	11,374	2,248	13,622
May ..	2,808	8,497	317	2,413	3,125	10,910	1,994	12,904
June ..	2,931	8,650	372	4,072	3,303	12,722	2,767	15,489
1954-55—								
July(c) ..	3,759	11,010	416	4,605	4,175	15,615	2,788	18,403
August ..	4,108	12,219	452	2,851	4,560	15,070	2,576	17,646
September ..	4,464	13,238	426	3,821	4,890	17,059	3,019	20,078
October ..	3,847	11,550	374	2,821	4,221	14,371	2,424	16,795
November ..	3,797	11,359	388	6,381	4,185	17,740	2,755	20,495
December ..	3,225	9,699	274	2,578	3,499	12,277	1,897	14,174

(a) Excludes suburbs of Hobart. (b) From July, 1947, includes additional areas in the metropolitan area of Melbourne.
See note (e) page 29. (c) From July, 1954, includes additional areas in the metropolitan area of Sydney, Melbourne and Hobart.
See note (k) on page 29 and note (g) on page 30.

NOTE.—Building controls under National Security (Building Control) Regulations operated from 5th December, 1940, becoming most stringent in 1942, when consent was required for all building other than alterations and additions costing less than £25. These controls were progressively relaxed after 1945 and have now ceased to exist in all States. For more detailed notes see earlier issues of this publication.

The "value of permits" shown above relates to the value of building permits issued by local government authorities and not to approvals granted under the Regulations.

For meaning of symbol —, see page 1.

BUILDING OPERATIONS : METROPOLITAN AND PROVINCIAL.

(Figures for government buildings relate to contracts let or day-labour work commenced. Figures for private buildings relate only to permits issued by local government authorities. Alterations and additions are included.)

(£'000.)

Period.	Australia.			New South Wales.			Victoria.		
	Govern- ment. Common- wealth and State.	Private.(a)		Govern- ment. (b) Common- wealth and State.	Private.		Govern- ment. Common- wealth and State.	Private.	
		Six Capital Cities and Suburbs.	Other recorded areas.		Sydney Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note A.		Melbourne Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note B.
Monthly Average									
1936-37	..	n.a.	(c)1,986	(d)627	n.a.	848	416	n.a.	667
1937-38	..	n.a.	(c)2,307	(d)764	n.a.	1,093	506	n.a.	669
1938-39	..	408	(c)2,353	(d)755	187	1,111	495	107	702
1947-48	..	2,009	(e)4,687	(f)3,151	1,044	1,705	(g)1,985	545	(e)1,650
1948-49	..	1,992	5,577	3,832	904	2,089	2,432	675	1,804
1949-50	..	2,751	7,129	4,863	985	2,625	3,101	1,067	2,218
1950-51	..	4,348	10,426	(h)8,568	1,964	3,610	4,519	1,428	3,187
1951-52	..	3,631	9,700	7,877	1,603	2,679	3,717	960	2,831
1952-53	..	2,772	10,045	7,671	923	2,799	3,542	1,129	2,906
1953-54	..	(i)4,603	12,356	9,686	1,912	3,553	4,622	1,637	3,890
1952-53—									
March Quarter		2,639	9,656	7,499	1,334	2,703	3,507	660	2,769
June	"	2,684	11,652	8,802	1,094	3,576	4,232	834	3,155
1953-54—									
September	"	4,105	12,706	9,766	1,923	3,807	4,578	1,496	3,708
December	"	4,626	11,285	9,311	2,356	3,166	4,505	1,432	3,813
March	"	3,839	11,434	8,804	1,189	3,498	4,248	1,407	3,277
June	"	(i)5,846	14,005	10,859	2,180	3,742	5,156	2,215	4,764
1954-55—									
September	"	r4,773	j 18,709	(j)8,844	r1,812	(k)6,419	(k)3,821	1,485	(k)5,643
December	"		17,154	8,240	r2,098	6,350	3,582	1,998	5,334
Monthly Total—									
1954-55—									
August	..	n.a.	17,646	n.a.	1,067	6,253	3,764	1,927	5,454
September	..	n.a.	20,078	n.a.	r2,796	6,825	3,484	1,433	6,011
October	..	n.a.	16,795	n.a.	r2,225	5,710	3,486	1,604	5,592
November	..	n.a.	20,495	n.a.	r1,546	8,534	3,763	1,579	6,059
December	..	n.a.	14,174	n.a.	2,523	4,807	3,496	2,809	4,351
January	..	n.a.		n.a.	2,195	4,456	2,423	979	4,190
February	..	n.a.		n.a.	900	5,915	3,160	1,813	5,429

(a) See note (a) on page 30. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (c) Excludes suburbs of Hobart. (d) Incomplete, excludes Western Australia. (e) From July, 1947, the metropolitan area of Melbourne includes some additional areas. For details see September, 1954, issue of this publication. (f) See A, below and C, E and F, page 30. (g) See A below. (h) See B, below. (i) See note (f), page 30. (j) See note (k), this page and note (g), page 30. (k) From July, 1954, the metropolitan area includes some additional areas previously included in "Other Recorded Areas". For details see September, 1954, issue of this publication.

NOTES.

- A. Includes 129 Country Towns and seven Shires near Sydney to June quarter, 1947, thereafter all areas outside Sydney and suburbs.
- B. Includes the Cities of Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, Geelong West, Horsham, Mildura, Newtown and Chilwell, Sale, Shepparton and Warrnambool to June quarter, 1950, thereafter all areas outside Melbourne and suburbs.

For meaning of symbols n.a., r, —, see page 1.

BUILDING OPERATIONS : METROPOLITAN AND PROVINCIAL—continued.

(Figures for government buildings relate to contracts let or day labour work commenced. Figures for private buildings relate only to permits issued by local government authorities. Alterations and additions are included.)

(£'000.)

Period.	Queensland.			South Australia.			Western Australia.			Tasmania.		
	Govern- ment. Common- wealth and State.	Private.(a)		Govern- ment.(b) Common- wealth and State.	Private.(a)		Govern- ment. Common- wealth and State.	Private.(a)		Govern- ment. Common- wealth and State.	Private.(a)	
		Brisbane Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note C.		Adelaide Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note D.		Perth Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note E.		Hobart Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note F.
Monthly Average—												
1936-37 ..	n.a.	153	98	n.a.	118	32	n.a.	168	n.a.	n.a.	32	19
1937-38 ..	n.a.	167	114	n.a.	173	48	n.a.	174	n.a.	n.a.	31	18
1938-39 ..	34	171	118	22	192	63	38	145	n.a.	20	32	16
1947-48 ..	141	557	(c) 692	132	418	91	115	238	60	32	(d) 119	(e) 197
1948-49 ..	116	610	721	105	564	132	145	338	70	47	172	266
1949-50 ..	198	827	868	217	727	188	197	499	111	87	233	378
1950-51 ..	357	1,106	1,061	216	1,174	215	270	1,027	274	113	322	468
1951-52 ..	228	1,426	1,107	377	1,386	265	379	1,120	347	84	258	494
1952-53 ..	232	1,376	1,209	226	1,525	336	219	1,157	320	43	282	333
1953-54 ..	(f) 303	1,299	1,404	320	1,485	379	314	1,749	548	117	380	430
1952-53—												
March ..	140	1,442	1,292	274	1,394	387	198	1,091	330	33	257	357
June ..	257	1,112	1,337	216	2,119	316	175	1,364	359	108	326	368
1953-54—												
Sept. ..	151	1,450	1,431	263	1,654	390	234	1,573	487	38	514	411
Dec. ..	165	1,262	1,392	298	1,244	321	273	1,539	489	102	261	426
March ..	345	1,285	1,404	343	1,321	365	444	1,647	473	111	406	341
June ..	(f) 553	1,199	1,388	375	1,722	439	307	2,239	743	216	339	542
1954-55—												
Sept. ..	541	1,591	1,385	426	2,084	443	399	2,399	645	110	(g) 573	(g) 488
Dec. ..		1,322	1,526	715	1,837	395	352	1,918	537	215	393	426
Monthly Total—												
1954-55—												
August ..	n.a.	1,605	1,351	472	1,988	n.a.	358	2,001	635	147	345	501
September ..	n.a.	1,948	1,344	406	2,176	n.a.	440	2,614	733	70	504	525
October ..	n.a.	1,345	1,856	1,277	1,722	n.a.	359	2,124	563	66	302	317
November ..	n.a.	1,460	1,568	464	1,939	n.a.	282	2,042	571	181	461	508
December ..	n.a.	1,162	1,155	403	1,851	n.a.	414	1,589	475	399	414	452
January ..	n.a.			144	1,786	n.a.		1,437	300	219	360	454
February ..	n.a.			133	2,267	n.a.		1,793	342	88	448	569

(a) Includes buildings erected under government home building schemes where permits obtained from local Government authorities.
 (b) Includes Northern Territory. (c) See C below. (d) Previously Hobart city area only. From September quarter, 1946, includes the whole metropolitan area of Hobart. (e) See F below. (f) From June quarter, 1954, includes the approvals of Hospital Boards not previously collected. (g) From July, 1954, the metropolitan area includes some additional areas previously included in "Other Recorded Areas." For details see September, 1954, issue of this publication.

NOTES.

C. Includes the Cities of Bundaberg, Cairns, Charters Towers, Gympie, Ipswich, Mackay, Maryborough, Rockhampton, Toowoomba, Townsville and Warwick, and the Towns of Bowen, Charleville, Dalby, Innisfail, Longreach, Redcliffe, Roma, Southport, and Stanthorpe to June quarter, 1947, thereafter all areas outside Brisbane and suburbs.

D. Includes local government areas, and estimate for unincorporated areas.

E. Includes 86 country local authorities, representing approximately 86 per cent. of provincial population.

F. Launceston only to June quarter, 1946, thereafter all areas outside Hobart and suburbs.

For meaning of symbols n.a., —, see page 1.

VALUE (WHEN COMPLETED) OF NEW BUILDINGS.

(Including Estimated Value of Owner-built Houses.)
(£'000.)

Period.	Commenced.			Completed.			Under Construction at end of period.		
	Houses.	Other.	Total.	Houses.	Other.	Total.	Houses.(a)	Other.	Total.(a)
Quarterly Averages.									
1947-48 ..	a17,900	5,138	a23,038	a13,307	2,389	a15,696	66,509	33,588	100,097
1948-49 ..	a22,277	6,940	a29,217	a18,331	3,932	a22,263	86,832	49,135	135,967
1949-50 ..	a27,516	8,014	a35,530	a22,446	5,251	a27,697	115,714	61,119	176,833
1950-51 ..	a40,478	14,615	a55,093	a31,222	6,258	a37,480	162,481	91,632	254,113
1951-52 ..	44,951	16,224	61,175	43,110	10,876	53,986	187,631	125,534	313,165
1952-53 ..	39,358	13,909	53,267	47,514	18,169	65,683	167,584	115,629	283,213
1953-54 ..	48,471	24,220	72,691	48,273	20,962	69,235	172,893	121,461	294,354
Quarterly Totals.									
1952-53—									
Dec. Qtr. ..	36,393	10,105	46,498	49,861	17,955	67,816	170,245	118,508	288,753
March ..	40,185	14,086	54,271	45,965	19,065	65,030	166,184	114,549	280,733
June ..	43,709	18,352	62,061	45,625	18,772	64,397	167,584	115,629	283,213
1953-54—									
Sept. ..	48,458	21,564	70,022	46,816	21,712	68,528	173,099	115,881	288,980
Dec. ..	46,817	18,942	65,759	53,584	20,043	73,627	168,113	115,353	283,466
March ..	48,338	25,053	73,391	43,544	20,830	64,374	173,784	121,134	294,918
June ..	50,271	31,323	81,594	49,148	21,262	70,410	176,576	133,478	310,054
1954-55—									
Sept. ..	53,410	32,409	85,819	50,908	23,258	74,166	181,231	142,818	324,049
Dec. ..	51,482	26,217	77,699	55,636	23,666	79,302	179,337	145,997	325,334

VALUE OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED.

(Including Estimated Value of Owner-built Houses.)
(£'000.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian Capital Territory.	Total.
Quarterly Average								
1947-48 ..	(a)6,076	4,473	2,598	1,020	832	570	127	(a)15,696
1948-49 ..	(a)8,434	6,839	3,050	1,621	1,177	953	189	(a)22,263
1949-50 ..	(a)10,230	8,671	3,488	2,268	1,338	1,336	366	(a)27,697
1950-51 ..	(a)12,367	13,014	4,322	3,010	2,237	2,101	429	(a)37,480
1951-52 ..	19,052	17,154	6,335	4,531	3,606	2,628	680	53,986
1952-53 ..	24,512	19,027	6,558	6,471	5,730	2,666	718	65,682
1953-54 ..	25,386	21,005	6,478	6,527	6,446	2,423	970	69,235
Quarterly Total								
1952-53—								
Dec. Qtr. ..	25,008	18,943	6,892	6,860	6,448	2,700	965	67,816
March ..	26,233	18,453	5,999	6,481	4,876	2,495	493	65,030
June ..	24,223	17,664	7,090	6,309	5,859	2,603	649	64,397
1953-54—								
Sept. ..	24,296	22,463	6,627	5,941	6,308	2,283	610	68,528
Dec. ..	26,550	22,926	6,732	6,584	7,274	2,223	1,338	73,627
March ..	23,292	19,636	5,666	6,569	5,621	2,741	849	64,374
June ..	27,407	18,993	6,888	7,014	6,582	2,445	1,081	70,410
1954-55—								
Sept. ..	27,119	22,316	5,933	7,420	7,951	2,594	833	74,166
Dec. ..	29,834	23,231	7,394	7,287	8,151	2,503	902	79,302

(a) Partly estimated.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES.
(Including Owner-built Houses.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian Capital Territory.	Total.
COMMENCED.								
Quarterly Average								
1947-48..	..	(a)4,952	3,870	2,382	895	768	516	98
1948-49..	..	(a)5,323	4,122	2,340	1,140	961	712	134
1949-50..	..	(a)5,514	4,911	2,502	1,527	1,258	916	97
1950-51..	..	(a)6,292	6,737	2,675	1,991	1,742	1,030	219
1951-52..	..	6,091	5,877	2,999	2,128	1,932	896	78
1952-53..	..	5,258	4,064	2,345	1,992	1,753	571	132
1953-54..	..	7,099	5,229	2,128	1,698	1,902	666	89
Quarterly Total								
1952-53—Dec. Qtr.		5,210	3,729	2,070	1,865	1,736	492	178
Mar. "		5,203	4,423	2,117	1,729	1,842	695	185
June "		6,121	4,479	2,265	2,052	1,760	524	82
1953-54—Sept. "		6,788	5,294	2,217	1,907	1,984	683	72
Dec. "		7,283	5,173	1,957	1,591	1,741	595	72
Mar. "		7,197	5,234	2,225	1,499	1,909	663	92
June "		7,127	5,214	2,114	1,795	1,974	724	119
1954-55—Sept. "		6,889	6,025	2,097	1,653	2,466	641	88
Dec. "		6,440	5,609	1,982	1,745	2,283	627	139
COMPLETED.								
Quarterly Average								
1947-48..	..	(a)3,715	2,962	2,300	752	693	386	68
1948-49..	..	(a)4,466	3,570	2,338	997	811	572	81
1949-50..	..	(a)4,692	3,902	2,362	1,226	877	713	101
1950-51..	..	(a)4,943	5,290	2,569	1,680	1,290	979	144
1951-52..	..	5,837	5,988	2,951	1,928	1,644	1,000	146
1952-53..	..	6,222	5,258	2,650	2,235	1,991	829	147
1953-54..	..	6,628	5,275	2,240	1,881	1,907	658	138
Quarterly Total								
1952-53—Dec. Qtr.		6,216	5,564	2,663	2,476	2,314	983	213
Mar. "		6,368	4,905	2,473	2,071	1,630	704	105
June "		5,918	4,889	2,626	2,041	1,981	718	141
1953-54—Sept. "		5,918	5,626	2,266	1,973	1,893	608	124
Dec. "		7,394	5,994	2,430	2,051	2,138	661	203
Mar. "		6,048	4,776	2,034	1,682	1,621	562	98
June "		7,153	4,705	2,231	1,816	1,975	799	127
1954-55—Sept. "		7,295	5,363	1,766	1,951	1,970	543	108
Dec. "		7,680	5,828	2,068	1,993	2,340	715	133
UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF PERIOD.(b)								
1947-48		19,686	15,312	3,951	3,203	1,841	2,065	491
1948-49		23,113	17,521	3,958	3,940	2,439	2,575	696
1949-50		26,402	21,553	4,520	5,241	3,957	3,357	678
1950-51		31,793	27,341	4,943	6,529	5,764	3,558	981
1951-52		32,806	26,896	5,135	7,395	6,917	3,143	708
1952-53		28,946	22,053	3,918	6,464	5,951	2,114	646
1953-54		30,828	21,865	3,470	5,750	5,932	2,149	449
1952-53—Dec. Qtr.		29,908	22,994	4,635	6,786	5,973	2,317	626
Mar. "		28,743	22,506	4,279	6,450	6,185	2,308	706
June "		28,946	22,053	3,918	6,464	5,951	2,114	646
1953-54—Sept. "		29,816	21,721	3,869	6,422	6,042	2,189	594
Dec. "		29,705	20,900	3,396	5,960	5,645	2,123	463
Mar. "		30,854	21,358	3,587	5,778	5,933	2,224	457
June "		30,828	21,865	3,470	5,750	5,932	2,149	449
1954-55—Sept. "		30,422	22,527	3,801	5,447	6,428	2,247	429
Dec. "		29,182	22,308	3,715	5,198	6,371	2,159	435
								69,368

(a) Partly estimated

(b) Partly estimated for New South Wales and total.

PRODUCTION OF COAL, ENERGY AND METALS.

Period.	Black Coal.			Brown Coal.	Gold, (Mine Pro- duction). (a)	Heat, Light and Power.		Metals.				
	Under- ground.	Open Cut.	Total.			Gas made in Gas- works.	Total Electric- ity Gen- erated.	Pig Iron.	Ingot Steel.	Zinc, Refined.	Lead, Refined and Lead in Lead Bullion. (b)	Copper, Refined. (b)
	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 fine oz.	Million cubic feet.	Million kWh.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Monthly Average—								(c)	(c)			
1936-37 ..	n.a.	n.a.	977	258	108.2	1,679	331	76.1	90.0	5,840	17,562	1,280
1937-38 ..	n.a.	n.a.	990	300	123.3	1,746	363	77.5	97.2	5,810	18,797	1,437
1938-39 ..	n.a.	n.a.	1,051	267	135.1	1,789	391	92.1	97.5	5,819	19,416	1,457
1947-48 ..	n.a.	n.a.	1,231	535	75.5	3,025	697	103.0	112.1	5,784	14,497	1,290
1948-49 ..	1,066	178	1,244	586	74.9	3,061	754	87.1	98.2	6,298	17,017	939
1949-50 ..	1,039	204	1,243	636	71.6	2,908	792	91.5	101.5	6,981	15,784	968
1950-51 ..	1,124	245	1,369	608	74.3	3,075	875	109.4	120.3	6,478	15,682	936
1951-52 ..	1,245	353	1,598	675	75.7	3,366	941	119.2	126.8	7,011	15,680	1,483
1952-53 ..	1,254	292	1,546	673	86.5	3,439	1,024	141.0	150.1	7,181	16,030	1,595
1953-54 p ..	1,362	256	1,618	728	92.6	r3,518	1,135	152.5	177.5	r8,263	19,669	1,979
Monthly Total—												
1952-53—												
February ..	1,264	268	1,532	633	79.3	2,861	932	134.9	143.4	6,715	7,996	1,727
March ..	1,319	287	1,606	663	88.7	3,221	1,052	166.2	162.7	7,422	19,292	1,340
April ..	1,153	251	1,404	666	82.5	3,220	1,017	159.4	156.9	7,110	18,714	2,038
May ..	1,125	257	1,382	750	84.7	3,684	1,121	147.2	170.3	7,285	18,045	943
June ..	1,151	278	1,429	705	97.2	3,876	1,160	151.9	171.7	6,754	18,910	2,802
1953-54 p—						r						
July ..	1,523	299	1,822	710	79.4	4,108	1,195	156.3	188.4	7,070	21,590	269
August ..	1,435	272	1,707	705	107.4	3,992	1,155	158.3	186.9	7,445	20,062	272
September ..	1,463	290	1,753	704	86.8	3,639	1,109	151.5	171.0	7,403	19,934	828
October ..	1,457	280	1,737	750	88.5	3,556	1,125	162.5	187.8	8,394	21,256	2,007
November ..	1,414	255	1,669	730	93.2	3,322	1,085	157.3	181.7	8,405	16,387	2,830
December ..	1,101	204	1,305	626	106.3	3,185	1,062	161.7	167.1	8,806	21,130	1,066
January ..	979	187	1,166	649	r82.7	3,042	1,036	158.8	180.4	r8,546	22,190	3,463
February ..	1,251	209	1,460	675	86.0	2,902	1,020	135.5	151.7	7,883	18,332	2,829
March ..	1,533	284	1,817	765	100.5	3,321	1,181	144.2	178.6	8,921	17,973	2,365
April ..	1,285	259	1,544	761	91.3	3,284	1,126	143.5	177.1	8,677	17,883	3,633
May ..	1,448	272	1,720	817	93.9	3,841	1,246	148.4	187.2	8,954	19,523	2,037
June ..	1,472	248	1,720	838	95.6	4,029	1,282	145.6	176.0	8,650	19,763	2,154
1954-55 p—												
July ..	1,500	260	1,760	842	98.1	4,310	1,359	159.6	202.4	9,050	23,634	1,457
August ..	1,462	284	1,746	808	90.4	4,140	1,321	155.0	193.2	9,029	21,680	1,760
September ..	1,564	267	1,831	833	97.1	3,831	1,255	169.0	197.3	8,680	19,470	2,446
October ..	1,498	226	r1,726	819	r88.6	3,680	1,243	174.2	200.9	8,876	20,422	3,239
November ..	1,525	246	r1,780	826	r95.5	3,421	1,212	160.6	189.5	8,496	19,895	3,265
December ..	1,259	223	r1,478	698	r97.5	3,272	r1,189	164.7	189.2	r8,761	18,333	3,250
January ..	724	172	896	711	79.1	3,080	1,162	158.7	173.6	8,763	18,622	2,247
February ..		1,473	723	77.0				137.3	156.3	7,820	14,805	3,072

(a) Gold content of minerals produced in Australia. (b) Source: Australian Mines and Metals Association. (c) Monthly averages for twelve months ended May.

For meaning of symbols n.a., r, p, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF BUILDING MATERIALS AND HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES.

Period.	Building Materials.							Cooking Stoves.			Domestic Refrigera- tors.
	Clay Bricks. Million. '000.	Roofing Tiles.		Cement Building Sheets. '000. sq. yds. (d)	Sawn Native Timber. (a) Million sup. ft.	Portland Cement. '000 tons.	Fibrous Plaster Sheets. '000 sq. yds.	Solid Fuel. (b)	Gas. (b)	Electric. (c)	
		Terra- cotta. '000.	Cement. '000.					No.	No.	No.	
Monthly Average—											
1936-37 ..	53.1	2,630	326	522	53.6	60.0	567	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
1937-38 ..	57.4	3,023	430	678	62.2	71.0	619	4,562	3,481	749	1,257
1938-39 ..	60.0	3,307	374	791	59.8	72.3	634	4,538	3,894	730	2,458
1947-48 ..	48.2	3,483	1,689	1,641	93.1	84.4	977	4,438	3,309	2,532	9,362
1948-49 ..	51.4	3,680	2,358	1,547	98.7	86.0	1,103	5,120	4,130	3,494	12,134
1949-50 ..	50.3	3,785	3,387	1,529	101.9	97.3	1,105	5,155	3,892	2,865	13,528
1950-51 ..	57.4	3,918	4,230	1,771	105.1	102.9	1,265	6,251	4,613	3,733	16,994
1951-52 ..	59.6	4,072	5,540	1,944	116.0	103.1	1,373	5,975	4,251	4,240	16,066
1952-53 ..	54.9	4,831	3,338	2,022	111.6	119.9	1,285	3,994	2,978	1,883	15,179
1953-54 p ..	r64.5	5,338	3,781	2,236	117.1	143.1	1,314	4,131	3,664	3,035	23,064
Monthly Total—											
1952-53—											
February ..	54.6	4,648	3,098	2,204	103.6	104.9	1,289	3,530	3,191	1,625	18,340
March ..	60.9	5,176	3,148	2,055	110.8	129.1	1,384	3,802	3,418	2,213	14,007
April ..	58.6	5,067	2,995	1,910	107.3	136.6	1,291	3,851	3,300	2,310	12,136
May ..	59.3	5,243	2,719	2,400	123.9	140.0	1,295	4,139	3,271	2,128	13,266
June ..	63.6	5,336	2,896	2,028	120.9	133.5	1,277	3,871	3,241	2,514	12,739
1953-54 p—	r										
July ..	66.1	5,723	3,802	2,354	131.2	141.3	1,323	5,069	3,850	2,512	17,630
August ..	61.1	5,362	3,701	2,393	124.7	138.8	1,292	4,472	3,780	2,331	17,546
September ..	69.0	5,926	4,060	2,217	126.8	137.2	1,330	5,366	4,048	2,989	22,194
October ..	68.0	5,461	3,992	2,353	126.0	146.5	1,346	4,098	4,040	2,965	28,865
November ..	65.4	5,512	4,072	2,234	116.1	135.1	1,385	3,969	3,789	3,047	30,726
December ..	58.1	4,716	3,848	1,785	109.9	133.4	1,145	3,272	3,407	2,415	31,892
January ..	48.9	3,919	2,617	1,706	91.2	118.2	1,003	2,536	2,439	2,308	25,350
February ..	60.1	5,040	3,451	2,244	106.5	121.3	1,305	3,220	3,045	2,673	23,333
March ..	72.0	5,662	4,064	2,560	115.5	156.2	1,443	3,948	3,987	3,860	21,975
April ..	64.5	5,183	3,585	1,961	114.5	145.4	1,331	3,847	2,930	3,382	18,399
May ..	68.6	5,723	3,973	2,551	120.2	173.5	1,424	4,740	4,096	3,810	17,967
June ..	72.2	5,829	4,205	2,477	123.1	170.2	1,443	5,032	4,552	4,123	20,896
1954-55 p—											
July ..	72.8	5,356	4,409	2,656	122.5	171.0	1,485	5,430	4,415	4,098	24,352
August ..	75.3	5,703	4,563	2,446	117.3	170.1	1,514	4,943	5,115	3,572	26,130
September ..	75.7	5,900	4,773	2,570	129.3	163.5	1,522	5,252	5,614	3,766	32,601
October ..	73.2	5,569	4,492	2,621	126.0	169.1	1,489	4,609	5,188	3,735	33,124
November ..	75.7	5,612	4,955	2,336	131.1	171.9	1,551	4,541	5,431	3,719	34,351
December ..	61.5	4,815	3,981	2,088	120.6	153.3	1,239	3,525	4,611	3,841	30,849
January ..	50.1	3,734	3,341	1,612	90.2	142.5	1,058	2,465	2,823	2,532	19,729
February ..	65.6	5,480	4,343	2,371	112.6	136.9	1,451	3,739	4,654	4,217	22,129

(a) Includes sawn sleepers.

(b) Household, commercial and industrial cooking stoves to 1947-48—thereafter household cooking stoves only.

(c) Household, commercial and industrial cooking stoves, ranges, stovettes and cookers to 1944-45—thereafter household cooking stoves only.

(d) In terms of '000 standard square yards to 1944-45, thereafter in terms of '000 selling square yards. A standard square yard contains a given volume of sheet; a selling square yard represents the area covered by the finished sheet regardless of its thickness or corrugation.

For meaning of symbols n.a., r, p, —, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING.

Period.	Cotton Textiles.			Wool Textiles.			Boots and Shoes (not Rubber).
	Cotton Yarn.	Cotton Woven Textiles (excl. Towels and Towelling).	Pure Rayon Fabrics.	Scoured and Carbonized Wool.	Yarn.	Woven Cloth.	
	'000 lb.	'000 sq. yds.	'000 sq. yds.	Million lb.	Million lb.	Million sq. yds.	
Monthly Average—							
1936-37	730	n.a.	n.a.	8.4	2.14	2.04	1,208
1937-38	965	n.a.	n.a.	7.9	2.51	2.47	1,176
1938-39	974	n.a.	n.a.	8.8	2.71	2.65	1,164
1947-48	2,368	1,960	369.2	14.8	4.28	3.42	1,351
1948-49	2,290	2,133	475.5	13.5	4.24	3.40	1,287
1949-50	2,519	2,398	548.5	14.4	4.09	3.11	1,284
1950-51	2,938	2,537	905.0	12.7	3.87	3.13	1,409
1951-52	2,872	2,617	905.4	10.1	3.04	2.44	1,400
1952-53	2,302	2,052	1,289.3	10.3	2.97	2.38	1,354
1953-54 p	3,161	2,677	1,702.8	11.3	3.73	2.73	1,495
Monthly Total—							
1952-53—							
February	2,131	1,925	1,310.4	10.2	3.18	2.64	1,330
March	2,463	1,917	1,397.8	11.5	3.44	2.86	1,431
April	2,570	2,378	1,610.5	11.4	3.51	2.92	1,412
May	2,356	2,009	1,822.7	11.7	3.68	3.05	1,501
June	2,632	2,353	1,580.9	15.5	3.50	2.91	1,526
1953-54 p—							
July	2,994	2,504	1,924.8	12.7	3.72	2.75	1,656
August	2,798	2,330	1,822.4	10.9	3.75	2.85	1,565
September	3,345	2,595	1,859.1	11.6	3.95	2.98	1,644
October	2,960	2,633	2,023.9	11.2	3.86	2.89	1,610
November	3,136	2,692	1,728.9	11.9	3.82	2.98	1,576
December	2,899	2,242	1,405.0	10.8	3.20	2.36	1,304
January	2,214	1,786	1,369.1	8.4	2.41	2.05	949
February	3,070	2,424	1,765.6	9.8	3.67	2.76	1,350
March	3,963	3,287	1,807.9	12.7	4.18	3.24	1,597
April	2,999	2,752	1,737.5	11.0	3.77	2.49	1,452
May	3,566	3,192	1,457.7	11.9	4.04	2.69	1,562
June	3,983	3,343	1,531.2	12.7	4.53	2.67	1,621
1954-55 p—							
July	r3,785	r3,094	1,764.2	11.8	3.73	2.36	r1,506
August	3,628	r2,954	1,480.6	12.4	3.77	2.55	r1,567
September	3,875	r3,101	1,302.7	10.5	3.95	2.72	r1,571
October	3,458	r2,931	1,306.9	11.4	3.75	2.52	r1,492
November	3,612	r3,016	1,354.1	r12.2	3.87	2.72	r1,555
December	3,040	2,402	1,108.5	10.0	2.92	2.06	r1,258
January	2,424	2,048	799.9	8.5	2.39	1.75	r834
February	3,423	2,633	1,271.4	10.6	3.42	2.46	1,355

For meaning of symbols n.a., r, p, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING—*continued.*

Period.	Hosiery.			Underwear.(b)		Shirts, Men's and Boys'.
	Men's and Boys'.	Women's, Maids' and Girls'.	Infants' and Babies'.(a)	Men's, Youths' and Boys'.	Women's, Maids' and Girls'.	
	'000 doz. pairs.	'000 doz. pairs.	'000 doz. pairs.	'000 doz.	'000 doz.	'000 doz.
Monthly Average—						
1936-37	..	83.1	157.1	49.1	191.8	(c) 60.6
1937-38	..	86.7	183.7	52.0	227.6	(c) 69.9
1938-39	..	91.9	178.0	51.0	229.2	(c) 56.2
1947-48	..	105.4	130.6	59.8	254.7	(c) 66.7
1948-49	..	106.3	128.0	58.8	264.0	(c) 71.3
1949-50	..	99.3	142.4	54.7	294.2	(c) 73.7
1950-51	..	128.0	154.8	46.9	107.7	201.9
1951-52	..	121.8	155.6	38.9	105.6	196.6
1952-53	..	131.2	194.8	35.5	92.9	175.2
1953-54 p	..	156.7	233.7	46.9	120.1	218.0
Monthly Total—						
1952-53—						
February	..	135.8	194.3	39.5	93.4	169.1
March	..	140.8	228.8	44.4	101.1	187.0
April	..	143.6	213.1	37.2	101.3	186.4
May	139.1	218.8	45.4	104.3	187.7
June	151.4	228.3	45.8	105.2	186.6
1953-54 p—						
July	..	170.6	251.6	53.4	127.9	230.7
August	..	163.0	224.4	51.8	113.5	212.2
September	..	183.6	249.2	52.6	133.9	250.7
October	..	169.6	239.1	48.0	126.9	239.0
November	..	176.9	233.0	46.7	132.0	243.0
December	..	148.6	208.2	39.4	112.7	199.8
January	..	103.8	151.6	28.1	76.3	137.8
February	..	142.1	214.7	42.7	110.0	196.5
March	..	177.6	272.8	54.2	135.8	252.8
April	..	138.8	236.5	45.1	118.5	203.4
May	147.9	258.5	50.2	128.5	217.9
June	159.0	264.2	50.4	124.9	232.9
1954-55 p—						
July	..	149.4	275.2	48.7	123.9	256.9
August	..	155.7	268.4	49.6	121.3	237.9
September	..	162.6	289.6	35.8	135.9	269.7
October	..	155.0	263.3	43.4	109.3	232.9
November	..	163.1	281.5	32.9	131.2	250.4
December	..	142.7	225.4	28.6	113.2	222.9
January	..	88.3	159.6	16.3	74.9	141.7
February	..	125.3	240.6	38.8	115.6	218.5

(a) Collected as children's prior to 1951-52.
(c) Excludes knitted.

(b) Total made including that knitted or made of knitted or woven fabric.

For meaning of symbols r, p, —, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF FOOD AND DRINK.

Period.	Wheaten Flour.	Refined Sugar.	Whole Milk for All Purposes.	Dairy Products (Factory Production).			Meat (Bone-in Weight). (a)					Beer.
				Butter.	Cheese.	Processed Full Cream Milk Products.	Beef (in- cluding Veal).	Mutton.	Lamb.	Total Pigmeats (as Pork).	Total. (b)	
	'000 short tons.	'000 tons.	Million gals.	Tons.	Tons.	'000 gals.(c)	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 gals.
Monthly Average—												
1936-37	102.4	27.0	89.9	13,908	1,636	n.a.	45.9	16.0	9.94	7.71	79.6	6,261
1937-38	104.2	28.9	96.4	15,242	2,018	n.a.	49.7	17.2	9.92	7.16	84.0	7,084
1938-39	114.4	28.2	99.1	16,232	2,415	2,781	46.6	17.1	9.55	7.24	80.5	7,523
1947-48	133.2	36.3	97.8	13,132	3,453	6,509	46.8	13.8	10.80	7.48	78.9	10,561
1948-49	139.9	35.7	101.1	13,424	3,596	7,304	48.1	15.1	11.59	7.82	82.6	12,171
1949-50	125.8	35.2	103.5	14,037	3,731	7,464	50.5	17.2	12.69	7.52	87.9	13,009
1950-51	141.3	37.6	100.0	13,303	3,692	7,069	54.3	13.5	9.37	7.11	84.3	14,397
1951-52	143.4	41.1	87.6	10,931	3,382	6,360	48.5	14.7	8.88	7.07	79.2	15,398
1952-53	143.9	36.7	101.5	13,632	3,883	6,970	56.2	20.8	12.17	6.91	96.1	16,446
1953-54p	133.4	38.3	99.1	13,021	4,102	6,103	58.9	19.4	10.71	7.03	96.0	17,792
Monthly Total—												
1952-53—												
Feb. ..	142.9	32.1	106.2	15,053	3,287	6,674	49.4	24.9	8.85	5.90	89.1	16,642
Mar. ..	148.5	36.0	99.7	14,063	2,616	5,270	56.3	24.0	9.31	7.06	96.7	18,213
Apr. ..	141.6	32.7	78.7	10,440	1,739	3,466	56.5	20.5	8.98	6.91	92.9	16,319
May ..	165.2	31.9	67.5	8,286	1,474	2,659	67.6	18.4	8.30	6.80	101.1	16,031
June ..	163.2	31.6	61.9	7,181	1,479	2,482	73.6	17.5	7.55	6.54	105.2	15,797
1953-54p—												
July ..	170.7	37.0	62.9	6,951	1,986	3,096	71.6	16.3	7.65	7.46	103.0	14,658
Aug. ..	149.6	38.4	77.0	8,919	3,327	5,136	66.9	15.7	7.55	6.55	96.7	15,339
Sept. ..	141.5	37.7	102.2	12,798	5,397	7,730	59.6	15.1	10.11	6.29	91.1	17,034
Oct. ..	134.0	36.0	131.0	17,504	7,372	9,904	56.5	18.8	14.84	6.90	97.0	18,141
Nov. ..	140.1	38.5	141.5	19,664	7,392	10,175	51.0	23.7	18.42	7.80	100.9	19,238
Dec. ..	118.8	37.6	134.7	18,606	6,645	9,677	50.2	23.8	15.50	9.22	98.7	21,596
Jan. ..	121.5	42.7	121.5	17,051	5,093	7,520	47.0	22.3	11.25	5.71	86.3	19,962
Feb. ..	108.1	36.2	108.1	15,416	3,614	5,496	46.9	22.1	8.14	5.61	82.8	16,604
Mar. ..	124.7	44.6	108.1	15,468	3,094	5,125	57.7	20.9	9.18	7.58	95.4	20,734
April ..	115.6	37.5	78.3	9,936	1,907	4,071	54.5	18.1	8.41	7.06	88.1	18,244
May ..	146.6	39.0	66.1	7,651	1,667	2,922	68.6	17.6	8.38	6.90	101.5	16,785
June ..	129.9	33.9	58.9	6,298	1,725	2,378	75.8	18.0	9.13	7.30	110.2	15,176
1954-55p—												
July ..	124.7	37.1	64.4	6,923	2,426	3,169	75.3	16.2	8.98	7.75	108.2	15,076
Aug. ..	121.3	42.9	87.3	10,913	3,748	4,592	63.3	16.5	10.88	7.60	98.3	16,536
Sept. ..	112.2	42.5	117.5	16,304	5,411	6,585	61.1	18.4	15.54	8.03	103.1	19,074
Oct. ..	113.6	44.6	148.2	21,842	6,643	7,986	59.4	21.0	22.87	7.23	110.5	20,313
Nov. ..	120.9	43.6	163.2	25,038	6,645	8,288	57.4	21.7	19.09	9.24	107.4	20,787
Dec. ..	136.4	43.7	159.8	24,739	5,897	7,682	56.4	21.5	15.60	10.94	104.5	22,139
Jan. ..	131.4	40.0	130.8	19,700	4,087	6,209	46.1	21.5	9.69	6.89	84.2	20,657
Feb. ..	134.6	36.8	111.4	16,612	2,724	4,638	49.1	21.1	8.95	7.40	86.5	20,383

(a) Includes monthly estimates of production in Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory.

(c) Whole milk equivalent.

(b) In terms of fresh meat.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS.

Period.	Tobacco, Cigars and Cigarettes. (a)	Chemicals and Allied Products.					Motor Bodies.			Pneumatic Tyres— Motor Cycle, Car, Truck, Aero, &c.	
		'000 lb.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	Paints.			Sedans and Coupes.	Tourers and Roadsters.	Utilities.	
					Ready-Mixed Paint.	Lacquers, Nitro- Cellulose.	Enamels, Natural and Synthetic.				
Monthly Average—											
1936-37 ..	1,805	36.4	90.9	161	n.a.	n.a.	3,660	478	610	n.a.	
1937-38 ..	1,904	41.3	102.8	170	60	39	4,032	804	518	n.a.	
1938-39 ..	1,939	40.8	100.0	176	48	48	3,426	816	715	n.a.	
1947-48 ..	2,502	40.4	98.8	291	74	116	1,874	536	786	142	
1948-49 ..	2,427	48.8	118.6	308	69	143	2,131	487	799	143	
1949-50 ..	2,558	51.0	123.6	330	78	186	2,347	333	1,174	164	
1950-51 ..	2,652	53.3	129.0	466	96	157	3,036	387	1,853	187	
1951-52 ..	2,795	54.2	133.1	459	99	174	3,486	390	1,865	213	
1952-53 ..	3,029	52.3	137.1	358	84	176	4,173		1,749	141	
1953-54 p ..	3,350	77.9	147.6	435	112	223	5,514		2,087	239	
Monthly Total—											
1952-53—											
February ..	3,168	48.2	124.2	402	97	190	4,489		1,931	130	
March ..	3,326	57.9	150.3	449	113	215	5,476		2,213	167	
April ..	3,050	60.1	166.8	396	94	193	4,726		2,172	148	
May ..	3,181	57.4	154.8	400	108	215	4,770		1,957	163	
June ..	3,048	60.4	152.5	376	92	215	5,074		1,927	203	
1953-54 p—											
July ..	3,350	55.7	134.0	449	109	225	5,460		2,263	240	
August ..	2,840	55.7	128.5	399	108	206	5,572		2,148	221	
September ..	3,582	57.4	146.9	459	113	240	5,599		2,455	251	
October ..	3,500	58.3	135.7	421	119	247	5,466		2,262	244	
November ..	3,750	53.3	122.6	439	117	254	5,189		2,408	245	
December ..	3,247	61.2	151.2	426	101	217	4,862		1,933	210	
January ..	2,952	60.7	145.5	345	85	170	3,570		1,254	159	
February ..	3,272	59.8	145.3	426	104	198	5,096		1,655	219	
March ..	4,003	70.3	178.9	474	128	239	6,574		2,035	290	
April ..	2,754	64.1	146.8	456	115	212	5,609		1,923	245	
May ..	3,683	65.4	161.3	474	126	233	6,383		2,154	274	
June ..	3,262	73.0	175.7	457	117	233	6,784		2,549	272	
1954-55 p—											
July ..	3,402	65.2	150.0	452	124	288	6,703		2,600	303	
August ..	3,318	64.4	143.2	444	127	308	6,492		r2,646	288	
September ..	3,467	62.1	155.7	495	126	350	r6,541		r2,629	315	
October ..	3,713	59.7	127.3	514	124	330	5,592		r2,413	293	
November ..	4,079	62.7	141.2	560	138	324	5,886		2,413	312	
December ..	3,831	70.3	160.3	491	102	241	r4,888		2,223	228	
January ..	3,075	69.4	179.6	525	89	180	3,184		r1,164	199	
February ..	3,826	64.9	154.7	546	124	257	6,031		2,071	289	

(a) Details for 1952-53 and earlier periods refer to Australian factory production; 1953-54 and later figures to quantity on which excise duty was paid.

For meaning of symbols n.a., r, p, see page 1.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION INDEXES : VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Unless otherwise stated, the indexes shown below include mining, manufacturing, electricity and manufactured gas, but exclude construction. When the indexes are adjusted for differences in the number of working days per month or for seasonal variations they are footnoted accordingly.

Source : *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* of the Statistical Office of the United Nations.

(Base : 1948 = 100.)

Period.	Belgium. (a)	Canada. (b)	Denmark. (b)	France. (b)	Italy.	Japan.	Nether- lands.	Norway. (b)	Sweden. (b)	United King- dom. (c)	U.S.A. (b) (d)
1937 ..	102	55	n.a.	98	102	192	88	n.a.	67	91	59
1938 ..	82	52	n.a.	90	101	210	89	81	67	86	46
1939 ..	87	56	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	98	86	73	n.a.	56
1948 ..	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1949 ..	100	102	106	110	110	124	112	110	104	106	93
1950 ..	102	108	119	111	127	142	128	124	108	114	108
1951 ..	118	115	121	125	144	193	r132	133	113	117	115
1952 ..	114	119	117	131	147	213	133	135	111	114	119
1953 ..	114	127	121	127	161	257	146	r142	111	121	129
1954 ..	124	125	129	139	175	276	160	151	115	129	120
1953—											
January ..	110	118	115	130	150	210	138	130	111	118	127
February ..	111	123	120	131	143	218	127	159	113	122	131
March ..	113	126	124	131	160	247	144	152	116	124	133
April ..	116	120	121	131	156	248	140	131	119	118	131
May ..	116	130	122	133	161	249	136	133	115	123	131
June ..	114	131	122	132	157	252	145	147	117	118	131
July ..	105	126	86	118	172	253	142	99	60	110	124
August ..	113	127	122	93	136	255	142	138	109	106	131
September ..	117	131	130	124	167	263	153	150	116	125	130
October ..	117	130	129	128	180	279	r164	r158	r121	131	131
November ..	118	128	129	133	173	276	r153	r157	121	133	125
December ..	119	120	120	137	174	291	r149	r140	121	121	119
1954—											
January ..	117	117	119	134	165	264	r141	r147	r116	127	119
February ..	116	122	128	134	162	267	r139	r178	117	130	121
March ..	119	121	131	137	181	290	r162	r161	r119	r132	120
April ..	123	123	131	141	176	283	r158	r141	122	124	118
May ..	124	125	133	145	r176	276	r160	146	122	r133	118
June ..	124	129	134	142	r166	275	r165	154	r123	127	119
July ..	112	122	88	134	r189	269	r159	105	62	116	112
August ..	122	126	130	110	148	263	r157	148	r114	113	118
September ..	126	129	139	141	186	275	r167	162	121	133	120
October ..	131	131	136	144	189	282	r170	r161	r123	137	125
November ..	r131	r130	140	150	178	281	r174	163	r127	139	125
December ..	131	146	131	r151	184	r285	r177	r150	r125	r129	123
1955—											
January ..				128	150			261		152	122
										133	126

(a) Adjusted for seasonal variations and for number of working days. (b) Adjusted for number of working days.
(c) Partially adjusted for number of working days. Includes construction. (d) Excludes electricity and manufactured gas.

For meaning of symbols n.a., r, see page 1.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS.

(Includes Commonwealth-owned vehicles other than those of Departments of Army and Air.)

Period.	Motor Vehicles on Register at end of period.			New Motor Vehicles Registered during period. (a)		
	Motor Cars.(b)	Commercial Vehicles, &c.(b)	Motor Cycles.	Motor Cars. (b)	Commercial Vehicles, &c.(b)	Motor Cycles.
	'000.	'000.	'000.			
Monthly Averages.						
1936-37 ..	499	214	78	4,049	2,016	623
1937-38 ..	535	242	80	4,594	2,283	694
1938-39(a) ..	562	258	79	4,509	2,077	614
1946-47 ..	550	376	87	1,770	1,360	685
1947-48 ..	593	414	100	3,562	2,397	1,192
1948-49 ..	655	452	117	5,539	3,056	1,852
1949-50 ..	768	502	134	9,584	4,829	2,232
1950-51 ..	883	551	146	10,639	6,494	2,263
1951-52 ..	1,032	583	155	10,443	6,122	1,846
1952-53 ..	1,109	582	148	7,748	4,362	941
1953-54 ..	1,200	607	140	10,425	4,824	905
Monthly Totals.						
1952-53—						
March ..	1,093	575	150	8,352	4,641	996
April ..	1,100	577	150	7,496	4,592	867
May ..	1,105	579	149	7,902	4,867	809
June ..	1,109	582	148	7,407	4,861	697
1953-54—						
July ..	1,115	583	147	9,595	5,486	782
August ..	1,122	586	146	8,450	4,677	745
September ..	1,130	589	145	10,544	4,820	853
October ..	1,137	590	144	10,731	4,662	971
November ..	1,143	593	144	10,524	4,947	1,015
December ..	1,146	593	144	11,228	5,083	1,020
January ..	1,157	596	143	8,403	3,633	943
February ..	1,161	595	143	8,571	3,833	862
March ..	1,172	598	143	11,700	5,255	1,020
April ..	1,182	601	142	11,264	4,927	1,007
May ..	1,190	603	141	11,654	5,234	892
June ..	1,200	607	140	12,440	5,318	740
1954-55—						
July ..	1,211	608	139	13,416	5,769	848
August ..	1,225	613	139	(c) 15,885	(c) 6,000	(c) 848
September ..	1,237	617	138	(c) 13,755	(c) 6,284	(c) 949
October ..	1,251	622	137	(c) 13,560	(c) 5,801	(c) 953
November ..	1,268	629	138	(c) 13,609	(c) 6,171	(c) 890
December ..	r1,284	r635	138	(c) 13,395	(c) 5,735	(c) 1,151
January ..	1,284	631	136	(c) r8,132	(c) r3,842	(c) r834
February ..				(c)p12,250	(c) p4,620	(c) p938
March ..				(c)p15,579	(c) p5,756	(c) p1,100

(a) Excludes Northern Territory prior to July, 1953; also extra-Metropolitan area of Western Australia prior to 1938-39.
 (b) Prior to 12th November, 1951, primary producers' vehicles registered in Victoria included private cars and commercial vehicles, and were included in commercial vehicle registrations. Since that date, only vehicles constructed for the carriage of goods and used by primary producers solely in connexion with their business are so registered. (c) Includes some new registrations effected in preceding months but not passed into central registration records until subsequent months.

For meaning of symbols p, r, see page 1.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS: FREIGHT, PASSENGERS AND REVENUE.

The following table shows statistics of freight and passengers carried and of revenue earned on the five mainland State railways to the end of June, 1947. From July, 1947, particulars relate to all State and Commonwealth railway systems, Tasmania, however, still being excluded in respect of particulars of freight.

Period.	Freight Carried. (a)		Average Daily Passenger-journeys. (b)	Monthly Revenue. (b)	
	Net Ton-miles (Daily Average).	Average haul per ton.		Gross.	Net.
1936-37	12,820	125.9	1,028	£3,407	£886
1937-38	13,976	125.0	1,048	3,632	886
1938-39	13,085	127.0	1,048	3,580	694
1946-47	17,406	148.4	1,368	5,303	427
1947-48	18,510	144.4	1,395	6,376	443
1948-49	19,317	146.2	1,381	7,174	89
1949-50	19,181	148.8	1,377	7,702	— 184
1950-51	19,462	148.6	1,300	8,834	— 569
1951-52	20,342	145.7	1,367	11,668	— 602
1952-53	18,766	136.4	1,364	12,892	— 517
1953-54	19,793	136.4	1,399	14,198	315
1953-54—					(c)
October	19,977	138.3	1,327	14,685	1,025
November	20,788	134.6	1,455	14,194	313
December	19,705	143.8	1,303	14,130	265
January	16,778	130.1	1,305	13,599	862
February	17,101	122.0	1,527	12,233	— 716
March	19,183	131.0	1,492	14,764	1,039
April	20,037	149.6	1,395	13,772	344
May	21,696	146.6	1,470	14,686	— 181
June	20,731	136.3	1,397	15,922	— 1,769
1954-55—					
July	24,367	156.1	1,354	14,456	732
August	25,039	156.3	1,439	15,123	1,362
September	25,654	156.3	1,434	15,375	1,442
October	25,340	158.3	1,377	15,304	1,174

(a) Excludes Tasmania. Excludes Commonwealth railway systems prior to 1947-48. Excludes South Brisbane-Border section of Uniform Gauge Railway from 1946-47. (b) Excludes Tasmanian and Commonwealth railway systems prior to 1947-48.

(c) These figures do not present satisfactory monthly comparisons, because of the periodical inclusion in expenditure of amounts to be set aside for special purposes. Minus sign (—) denotes loss.

MAINLAND STATE RAILWAYS: GROSS REVENUE.(a)

(£'000.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Total.
1952-53	73,932	31,666	24,835	11,616	7,934	149,983
1953-54	74,572	35,841	28,952	12,806	11,376	163,547
July-January, 1954	42,389	19,610	17,808	7,429	6,203	93,439
,, 1955	44,233	21,403	19,403	7,835	7,159	100,033

(a) From monthly statements issued by each Treasury. These figures are on a cash basis and differ slightly from the corresponding figures in the table above, which are on an income and expenditure basis. Excludes Treasury transfers.

For meaning of symbols r, —, see page I.

SHIPPING CARGOES.

'000 TONS WEIGHT.

(Excluding all cargo shipped by ton measurement.(a).)

Period.	Oversea Cargo.		Interstate Cargo Shipped from—							
	Shipped from Australian Ports.	Discharged at Australian Ports.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queens- land.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia. (b)	
Monthly Average—										
1936-37..	..	419	304	228	71	30	163	3	47	542
1937-38..	..	478	364	247	73	24	186	3	53	586
1938-39..	..	428	350	228	72	27	219	5	51	602
1947-48..	..	374	415	270	46	34	200	7	34	592
1948-49..	..	452	488	257	41	32	152	5	32	519
1949-50..	..	422	641	233	37	30	198	5	32	535
1950-51..	..	450	757	232	37	36	222	5	28	560
1951-52..	..	374	810	280	37	45	238	11	29	641
1952-53..	..	504	644	285	34	53	247	52	33	704
1953-54..	..	479	711	307	39	36	287	54	35	758
Monthly Total—										
1952-53—										
February	..	485	476	256	32	50	230	76	24	669
March	..	625	549	293	25	47	250	63	37	716
April	594	651	232	36	35	221	72	24	621
May	672	681	255	32	39	235	79	33	673
June	668	625	215	30	37	197	80	36	597
1953-54—										
July	683	621	338	42	42	261	77	45	805
August	472	699	311	33	28	309	71	39	791
September	498	652	329	35	51	251	52	41	761
October	559	748	390	30	39	264	42	35	801
November	509	716	317	28	25	284	37	34	726
December	440	611	268	32	39	251	65	33	688
January	364	735	293	17	34	330	51	27	753
February	391	617	234	20	22	268	54	18	617
March	537	804	332	22	28	295	59	43	779
April	394	731	274	54	34	305	37	22	727
May	454	779	301	63	55	327	36	50	832
June	451	817	300	83	38	298	72	35	827
1954-55—										
July	565	891	333	56	52	346	108	50	945
August	442	873	307	62	48	365	86	41	910
September	467	774	308	77	56	230	80	46	798
October	558	836	330	90	48	335	54	45	902
November(c)	319	799	182	43	29	318	34	24	630
December	648	869	314	86	74	266	51	23	814
January	500	869	273	91	45	361	43	49	862
February p	462	933	269	78	55	281	44	54	781

(a) Additional to figures for Tons Measurement on page 43.
ports 2nd-16th November (approx.).

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

(c) Strike in all main

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

SHIPPING CARGOES.

'000 TONS OF 40 CUBIC FEET MEASUREMENT.
(Excluding all cargo shipped by ton weight(a).)

Period.	Oversea Cargo.		Interstate Cargo Shipped from—							
	Shipped from Australian Ports.	Discharged at Australian Ports.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queens- land.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia. (b)	
Monthly Average—										
1936-37..	..	78	169	56	22	9	20	5	21	133
1937-38..	..	91	190	59	28	13	26	5	25	156
1938-39..	..	91	183	56	21	13	22	5	27	144
1947-48..	..	104	160	29	18	12	16	6	24	105
1948-49..	..	114	214	29	19	10	16	6	18	98
1949-50..	..	116	298	25	21	11	17	7	20	101
1950-51..	..	108	333	27	20	10	20	6	27	110
1951-52..	..	103	391	32	25	9	17	6	21	110
1952-53..	..	121	161	31	22	8	17	9	19	106
1953-54..	..	113	234	36	35	10	19	8	20	128
Monthly Total—										
1952-53—										
February	..	94	130	31	23	9	15	9	19	107
March	..	144	182	33	22	9	17	17	17	115
April	150	143	27	20	8	21	6	29	111
May	151	168	38	34	8	20	7	23	130
June	107	197	34	30	8	13	7	19	111
1953-54—										
July	116	194	39	34	13	19	9	18	132
August	110	248	37	29	9	24	10	12	122
September	91	207	43	28	8	23	6	6	114
October	107	198	42	44	15	18	11	17	147
November	87	258	37	36	10	24	9	16	132
December	98	213	27	31	9	18	7	15	108
January	61	264	28	30	7	12	4	19	100
February	87	187	28	35	8	15	5	25	116
March	175	285	44	43	9	23	9	23	151
April	160	202	40	42	12	11	7	40	152
May	158	288	36	34	11	23	9	25	138
June	106	270	33	37	8	17	9	23	127
1954-55—										
July	112	272	43	42	12	26	7	18	148
August	103	258	40	34	11	20	9	18	132
September	121	270	37	36	14	18	9	42	156
October	101	264	30	44	12	16	6	14	122
November(c)	66	234	16	20	6	12	8	13	75
December	126	265	43	42	9	16	6	28	144
January	90	370	30	23	5	12	7	23	100
February p	78	259	31	34	11	11	8	12	107

(a) Additional to figures for Tons Weight on page 42. (b) Includes Northern Territory. (c) Strike in all ports 2nd-16th November (approx.).

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

POST OFFICE ACTIVITY.

Period.	Receipts of P.M.G's Department.(a)	Broadcast Listeners' Licences in force at end of period.	Telephone Services connected at end of period.	
			Lines.	Instruments.
	£'000.	'000	'000.	'000.
Monthly Averages.				
1936-37	1,318	938	440
1937-38	1,396	1,056	465
1938-39	1,447	1,130	488
1947-48	2,616	1,833	688
1948-49	2,776	1,919	734
1949-50	3,196	2,030	793
1950-51	3,732	(b) 2,110	864
1951-52	4,948	1,961	927
1952-53	5,371	1,986	985
1953-54	5,650	2,042	1,050
Monthly Totals.				
1952-53—				
March	5,605	1,989	971
April	5,275	1,994	975
May	5,433	1,987	980
June	5,675	1,986	985
1953-54—				
July	5,438	1,988	991
August	5,116	1,991	996
September	5,613	1,987	1,003
October	5,837	1,986	1,008
November	5,487	1,968	1,014
December	6,409	1,968	1,020
January	5,130	1,968	1,025
February	5,049	1,972	1,029
March	6,247	2,011	1,034
April	5,587	2,030	1,039
May	5,779	2,031	1,044
June	6,105	2,042	1,050
1954-55—				
July	5,657	2,027	1,055
August	5,558	2,029	1,062
September	5,903	2,030	1,068
October	5,929	2,047	1,075
November	6,397	2,053	1,081
December	7,038	2,044	1,088
January	5,160	2,039	1,095
February	5,927	2,047	1,101
March	6,618	2,031	1,107

(a) Actual collections.
of one are included.

(b) During the period July, 1942, to December, 1951, supplementary licences for receivers in excess

For meaning of symbol ———, see page 1.

PRIVATE TRADING BANKS.(a)
LIABILITIES AND ASSETS WITHIN AUSTRALIA.
 (£ million.)

Period.	Deposits.(b)			Advances.	Government and Municipal Securities. (c)	Special Accounts with Commonwealth Bank.	Coin, Bullion, Notes and Cash with Commonwealth Bank	Treasury Bills.
	Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.					
Average of Weekly Figures—								
1936-37..	..	184.7	112.9	297.6	262.5	15.0	..	34.2
1937-38..	..	194.8	120.0	314.8	274.4	21.4	..	37.1
1938-39..	..	198.8	118.9	317.7	288.1	20.5	..	33.6
1947-48..	..	201.9	471.6	673.5	(d)329.9	65.6	262.3	44.4
1948-49..	..	211.3	565.1	776.4	368.6	61.5	322.7	48.0
1949-50..	..	224.5	685.6	910.1	403.9	83.8	377.0	52.0
1950-51..	..	247.7	896.5	1,144.2	479.3	90.2	500.3	59.3
1951-52..	..	238.2	963.5	1,201.7	621.4	68.4	466.0	60.6
1952-53..	..	218.7	943.7	1,162.4	638.1	86.5	211.7	74.7
1953-54..	..	239.8	1,035.7	1,275.5	658.5	130.3	285.2	71.2
1952-53—								
March	..	221.1	1,051.5	1,272.6	593.9	101.1	228.6	81.7
April	..	224.0	1,059.5	1,283.5	592.5	110.1	276.1	71.7
May	..	222.7	1,029.5	1,252.2	597.6	115.5	300.8	65.5
June	..	228.9	1,010.1	1,239.0	601.8	115.7	300.8	76.6
1953-54—								
July	..	225.6	978.4	1,204.0	616.9	115.6	296.5	66.1
August	..	225.1	956.2	1,181.3	619.9	119.5	282.0	67.1
September	..	227.8	963.9	1,191.7	630.8	122.9	261.1	73.3
October	..	230.4	979.6	1,210.0	654.6	124.6	250.7	63.3
November	..	245.9	1,005.0	1,250.9	664.1	126.1	250.5	69.0
December (e)	..	246.0	1,044.0	1,290.0	665.0	130.2	250.5	83.0
January	..	244.5	1,059.3	1,303.8	654.1	135.0	257.2	87.6
February	..	245.9	1,091.2	1,337.1	656.0	138.5	282.4	75.0
March	..	244.3	1,118.7	1,363.0	664.3	141.9	315.4	66.8
April	..	245.3	1,109.6	1,354.9	684.7	142.0	332.6	63.3
May	..	247.7	1,075.6	1,323.3	695.4	136.0	318.8	75.4
June	..	251.3	1,053.7	1,305.0	701.7	133.4	313.8	67.7
1954-55—								
July	..	254.3	1,017.4	1,271.7	724.9	123.6	308.4	65.7
August	..	252.9	1,003.8	1,256.7	738.8	120.3	291.9	65.4
September	..	259.9	1,000.4	1,260.3	757.1	117.3	287.8	65.0
October	..	264.3	1,021.6	1,285.9	780.1	116.1	272.3	65.0
November	..	264.1	1,035.2	1,299.3	786.2	114.8	269.1	67.7
December (f)	..	261.1	1,056.6	1,317.7	785.7	114.3	259.6	69.7
January	..	264.9	1,069.9	1,334.8	769.8	116.4	259.6	83.7
February	..	267.2	1,089.0	1,356.2	772.9	124.6	259.6	71.7
March (g)	..	267.2	1,097.1	1,364.3	775.9	132.5	259.6	65.8
								95.5

(a) Previously Nine Trading Banks. Now include Australia and New Zealand Bank Ltd., Bank of Adelaide, Bank of New South Wales, Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd., Commercial Banking Company of Sydney Ltd., English, Scottish and Australian Bank Ltd., National Bank of Australasia Ltd., Queensland National Bank Ltd. (in vol. liq.) and from March, 1955, Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. Averages of liabilities and assets on Mondays in period until December, 1946; thereafter averages of liabilities and assets on Wednesdays.

(b) Excludes inscribed deposit stock. (c) Excludes Treasury Bills. (d) Figures for 1945-46 and onwards are not strictly comparable with those for previous periods owing to exclusion from advances of bills receivable and minor miscellaneous assets.

(e) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fourth Wednesday. (f) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fifth Wednesday. (g) Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. included from March, 1955.

For meaning of symbols .., —, see page 1.

PRIVATE TRADING BANKS (a)—continued.

RATIOS OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES TO TOTAL DEPOSITS (b) WITHIN AUSTRALIA. (Per Cent.)

Period.	Percentages of Various Categories of Assets to Total Deposits.					Percentage Non-interest bearing to Total Deposits.
	Cash in Australia.	Cash + Treasury Bills.	Advances.	Advances + Government and Municipal Securities in Australia.(c)	Special Accounts with Com- monwealth Bank.	
Average of Weekly Figures—						
1936-37	11.49	19.73	88.20	93.26	.. 37.93
1937-38	11.79	18.37	87.15	93.95	.. 38.13
1938-39	10.58	17.36	90.70	97.15	.. 37.42
1947-48	6.59	9.28	(d)48.98	(d)58.72	38.94 70.02
1948-49	6.18	9.03	47.47	55.39	41.56 72.79
1949-50	5.71	8.62	44.35	53.55	41.40 75.28
1950-51	5.19	8.41	41.89	49.69	43.73 78.35
1951-52	5.04	7.74	51.71	57.40	38.78 80.18
1952-53	6.43	17.02	54.89	62.33	18.21 81.19
1953-54	5.59	13.38	51.63	61.85	22.36 81.20
1952-53—						
March	6.42	23.00	46.67	54.62	17.97 82.63
April	5.58	19.08	46.16	54.74	21.51 82.55
May	5.23	15.53	47.72	56.94	24.02 82.21
June	6.19	14.30	48.57	57.91	24.27 81.53
1953-54—						
July	5.49	12.61	51.23	60.83	24.62 81.26
August	5.68	12.95	52.48	62.60	23.87 80.94
September	6.15	14.34	52.93	63.24	21.91 80.89
October	5.23	13.17	54.10	64.39	20.71 80.95
November	5.52	13.58	53.08	63.16	20.02 80.34
December (e)	6.44	14.60	51.55	61.65	19.41 80.93
January	6.72	16.66	50.17	60.53	19.73 81.25
February	5.61	16.65	49.06	59.41	21.12 81.61
March	4.90	14.66	48.74	59.15	23.14 82.07
April	4.67	11.43	50.53	61.01	24.54 81.90
May	5.70	10.77	52.55	62.83	24.09 81.28
June	5.19	9.63	53.77	63.99	24.04 80.74
1954-55—						
July	5.16	7.81	57.01	66.73	24.25 80.00
August	5.20	7.78	58.78	68.35	23.22 79.88
September	5.16	6.97	60.07	69.38	22.83 79.38
October	5.06	7.81	60.66	69.68	21.18 79.45
November	5.21	8.37	60.51	69.34	20.71 79.67
December (f)	5.29	8.86	59.63	68.30	19.70 80.18
January	6.28	11.88	57.67	66.40	19.45 80.15
February	5.29	12.41	56.99	66.18	19.14 80.30
March (g)	4.82	11.82	56.87	66.59	19.03 80.42

(a) See footnote (a) on previous page. (b) Deposits exclude inscribed deposit stock. (c) Excludes Treasury Bills.

(d) Figures for 1945-46 and onwards are not strictly comparable with those for previous periods owing to exclusion from advances of bills receivable and minor miscellaneous assets. (e) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fourth Wednesday. (f) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fifth Wednesday. (g) Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. included from March, 1955.

For meaning of symbols .., —, see page 1.

COMMONWEALTH TRADING BANK OF AUSTRALIA(a),

and

COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA

(RURAL CREDITS, MORTGAGE BANK AND INDUSTRIAL FINANCE DEPARTMENTS).

(£ million.)

Period.	Commonwealth Trading Bank.(a)(b)							Commonwealth Bank—Advances.(b)				
	Deposits.			Advances.	Special Account with Commonwealth Bank. (c)	Coin Bullion, Notes and Cash with Commonwealth Bank.	Treasury Bills.	Other Australian Government and Municipal Securities.	Rural Credits Department.	Mortgage Bank Department.	Industrial Finance Department.	
	Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.								Hire Purchase.	Other.
Average of Weekly Figures—												
1947–48 ..	13.9	43.7	57.6	23.4	..	6.6	..	32.1	0.8	3.1	2.5	3.5
1948–49 ..	13.2	51.1	64.3	31.8	..	6.1	..	34.1	1.8	3.2	7.6	4.8
1949–50 ..	14.8	62.5	77.3	45.3	..	6.2	2.0	35.4	13.8	3.5	12.8	6.3
1950–51 ..	19.4	89.2	108.6	62.5	..	7.2	24.0	26.9	13.7	3.8	14.7	7.6
1951–52 ..	20.1	90.6	110.7	76.4	..	6.6	26.4	13.3	19.7	4.1	15.5	8.7
1952–53 ..	22.8	96.7	119.5	(d)59.5	21.7	8.8	(c)17.2	(d)25.8	44.9	4.3	14.8	8.1
1953–54 ..	35.3	120.9	156.2	69.2	34.8	11.0	23.4	29.9	43.2	4.5	16.6	4.7
1952–53—												
March ..	24.9	107.0	131.9	58.1	23.3	11.6	32.7	21.6	95.7	4.3	15.4	8.4
April ..	25.1	107.8	132.9	55.6	28.7	8.7	35.6	16.8	89.6	4.3	15.7	7.9
May ..	25.3	107.3	132.6	57.3	32.3	10.2	32.0	15.2	77.6	4.3	15.9	6.6
June ..	26.0	109.7	135.7	59.7	32.3	11.9	31.3	15.2	62.6	4.2	16.1	6.3
1953–54—												
July ..	27.2	110.6	137.8	62.4	32.3	9.7	31.7	15.2	47.9	4.3	16.3	5.0
August ..	29.6	110.7	140.3	63.4	32.3	11.5	31.6	15.5	36.8	4.4	16.4	4.9
September	34.4	115.4	149.8	63.6	32.3	11.6	32.5	24.1	30.9	4.4	16.4	4.7
October ..	36.0	120.2	156.2	66.4	32.3	11.4	29.6	28.1	24.6	4.5	16.6	4.3
November	36.8	124.2	161.0	68.4	32.3	11.3	27.7	33.2	19.8	4.5	16.8	4.2
December e	35.6	123.8	159.4	70.4	32.3	10.6	22.6	35.1	10.7	4.5	17.1	4.6
January	36.8	118.3	155.1	71.6	32.8	10.5	19.6	35.1	25.4	4.6	16.9	4.6
February	36.9	121.6	158.5	71.6	34.5	10.5	20.9	35.1	48.0	4.6	16.6	4.6
March ..	37.9	125.3	163.2	71.9	38.3	9.8	18.3	35.1	70.4	4.7	16.4	4.8
April ..	37.9	127.7	165.6	72.1	40.3	9.9	17.9	35.1	74.0	4.7	16.6	4.8
May ..	38.3	126.1	164.4	73.3	39.1	10.7	15.5	35.1	63.6	4.7	16.7	5.0
June ..	37.8	127.9	165.7	76.0	38.7	14.1	12.6	35.1	57.4	4.6	16.8	5.3
1954–55—												
July ..	39.9	125.0	164.9	80.9	38.6	9.3	13.3	35.1	56.2	4.7	16.7	6.0
August ..	41.0	123.7	164.7	84.0	38.5	9.8	8.3	35.1	61.1	4.7	16.8	6.1
September	41.9	126.9	168.8	84.1	38.5	10.5	9.6	37.0	54.1	4.7	17.1	6.3
October ..	44.6	128.1	172.7	84.2	37.3	10.4	11.9	39.9	48.3	4.7	17.2	6.3
November	44.1	132.1	176.2	86.5	36.7	9.8	14.3	40.1	45.6	4.8	17.3	6.4
December f	43.8	133.6	177.4	87.4	35.0	10.6	16.3	38.2	41.4	4.8	17.5	6.3
January ..	42.9	127.3	170.2	89.7	35.0	11.6	10.7	36.3	53.6	4.8	17.4	6.2
February	42.5	129.5	172.0	90.0	35.0	10.3	12.7	37.7	76.9	4.9	17.1	6.3
March ..	44.2	136.2	180.4	90.9	35.0	11.4	15.3	39.3	85.9	5.0	16.9	6.5

(a) General Banking Division of Commonwealth Bank prior to 3rd December, 1953.

(b) Averages of liabilities and assets on Wednesdays.

(c) At the beginning of July, 1952, the General Banking Division opened, in the books of the Central Bank, a special deposit account with a balance approximating the amount that would be required if it were subject to Special Account provisions of the Banking Act 1945. This represents a change in the form of liquid assets which were previously held, predominantly in Treasury Bills.

(d) Between March and July, 1952, certain loans to

building societies and credit foncier loans for housing were transferred from the General Banking Division to the Commonwealth Savings Bank in exchange for Government Securities. The reduction in these loans (held by the General Banking Division) over this period was approximately £24,000,000.

(e) Returns for fourth Wednesday not available.

(f) Returns for fifth Wednesday not available.

For meaning of symbols . . —, see page 1.

COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA : CENTRAL BANKING BUSINESS.

(Including Note Issue Department.)

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS.(a)

(£A million.)

Period.	Notes on Issue.			Special Accounts of Trading Banks.	Other Deposits of Trading Banks.	Other Liabilities (excluding Capital and Reserves).	Gold and Balances held Abroad.	Government and other Securities (including Treasury Bills).	
	Held by Banks.	Held by Public.	Total.						
Average of Weekly Figures—									
1947–48..	..	22.2	175.9	198.1	263.7	28.0	142.0	196.7	419.9
1948–49..	..	24.9	178.7	203.6	323.9	29.8	174.6	336.2	356.3
1949–50..	..	27.9	194.3	222.2	379.6	30.7	200.3	434.0	349.0
1950–51..	..	32.7	219.1	251.8	503.2	34.7	238.2	596.3	366.6
1951–52..	..	38.1	255.5	293.6	468.8	31.1	270.9	470.6	503.1
1952–53..	..	36.9	281.3	318.2	212.9	45.4	287.4	363.6	434.8
1953–54..	..	38.5	299.7	338.2	306.8	41.7	283.4	512.6	408.0
1952–53—									
March	..	35.8	286.2	322.0	229.7	56.5	293.3	412.0	377.9
April	37.0	292.0	329.0	277.1	44.5	305.3	433.0	420.1
May	36.1	289.8	325.9	301.9	38.7	313.4	455.9	435.0
June	36.1	291.9	328.0	301.9	49.0	322.6	479.9	448.4
1953–54—									
July	35.7	293.5	329.2	297.6	39.8	319.1	489.5	439.4
August	36.0	295.9	331.9	282.7	40.2	304.1	495.5	420.7
September	36.5	296.0	332.5	262.2	42.3	306.0	490.7	409.8
October	37.3	295.8	333.1	251.7	30.9	295.1	486.1	393.8
November	37.7	296.7	334.4	251.5	36.0	315.2	490.4	419.3
December (b)	43.2	303.7	346.9	(c)275.7	49.0	287.8	511.8	432.0
January	42.5	297.8	340.3	291.0	55.5	264.5	520.2	403.3
February	38.5	298.9	337.4	317.9	46.1	262.5	530.1	382.2
March	38.5	301.2	339.7	354.9	37.8	258.4	539.6	375.1
April	39.4	307.3	346.7	373.9	33.5	253.9	539.0	389.4
May	39.7	304.3	344.0	358.9	47.0	263.1	540.0	404.3
June	38.7	305.8	344.5	353.5	43.5	266.9	520.9	422.6
1954–55—									
July	38.8	307.2	346.0	348.1	36.7	250.1	478.5	445.0
August	38.8	309.0	347.8	331.4	37.3	246.5	454.0	445.8
September	38.4	311.1	349.5	327.3	37.5	255.2	439.4	473.4
October	39.4	312.4	351.8	310.7	36.2	250.1	426.4	470.9
November	39.4	313.7	353.1	306.9	38.4	249.5	424.9	472.2
December (d)	44.5	322.9	367.4	295.7	36.3	235.7	417.7	471.1
January	46.6	317.0	363.6	295.7	49.2	241.4	414.9	475.0
February	40.9	314.3	355.2	295.7	40.8	246.7	406.8	446.2
March	40.4	317.6	358.0	295.7	36.8	244.3	403.5	438.4

(a) Averages of liabilities and assets on Wednesdays in period. (b) Return for fourth Wednesday not available. (c) From 3rd December, 1953, includes Special Account of Commonwealth Trading Bank. Previously the Special Deposit Account of the General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank was included in "Other Liabilities". (d) Return for fifth Wednesday not available.

ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS.(a)

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS WITHIN AUSTRALIA.(b)

(£ million.)

Period.	Deposits.			Advances.	Coin, Bullion, Notes and Cash with Common- wealth Bank.	Treasury Bills.	Other Australian Government and Municipal Securities.
	Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.				
Average of Weekly Figures—							
1947-48 (c)	221.2	527.8	749.0	384.7	54.2	19.2
1948-49	231.8	634.6	866.4	440.2	58.3	24.0
1949-50	249.3	771.2	1,020.5	495.4	62.2	29.5
1950-51	279.6	1,017.6	1,297.2	598.4	71.4	64.0
1951-52	271.7	1,091.5	1,363.2	759.7	72.3	61.7
1952-53	256.8	1,076.3	1,333.1	(d)762.3	(e)88.2	(e)144.2
1953-54	290.4	1,196.0	1,486.4	793.7	87.3	130.1
1952-53—							
March	261.3	1,201.2	1,462.5	715.9	100.6	253.1
April	264.2	1,209.0	1,473.2	711.3	87.5	218.2
May	263.0	1,176.5	1,439.5	718.0	81.9	169.7
June	269.7	1,158.3	1,428.0	724.8	94.3	138.7
1953-54—							
July	267.7	1,125.7	1,393.4	743.2	81.6	122.0
August	269.5	1,102.2	1,371.7	747.1	83.8	121.7
September	277.0	1,114.1	1,391.1	759.5	89.3	134.1
October	281.0	1,134.0	1,415.0	787.7	78.8	129.1
November	297.3	1,164.5	1,461.8	799.8	84.9	132.4
December (f)	296.6	1,205.4	1,502.0	802.2	98.8	132.5
January	296.6	1,218.4	1,515.0	791.5	103.9	156.9
February	298.4	1,255.7	1,554.1	793.5	91.2	179.0
March	298.3	1,288.1	1,586.4	802.5	82.2	163.6
April	299.2	1,281.0	1,580.2	823.2	77.9	121.4
May	301.8	1,245.3	1,547.1	835.4	90.7	93.7
June	305.2	1,225.3	1,530.5	845.2	87.1	80.1
1954-55—							
July	310.1	1,184.6	1,494.7	874.8	79.6	54.9
August	309.5	1,169.5	1,479.0	892.0	79.7	47.6
September	317.7	1,168.0	1,485.7	911.1	80.6	37.3
October	324.6	1,190.3	1,514.9	935.8	80.1	51.9
November	324.4	1,207.4	1,531.8	944.5	82.5	60.0
December (g)	321.1	1,229.9	1,551.0	946.3	84.8	67.3
January	324.2	1,239.7	1,563.9	931.8	100.9	90.4
February	326.1	1,262.6	1,588.7	935.6	86.9	116.4
March	327.6	1,276.0	1,603.6	940.0	81.0	118.5

(a) Compiled from returns lodged under the Banking Act 1945-1953. Includes General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (Commonwealth Trading Bank from 3rd December, 1953), the General Bank Department of the Rural Bank of New South Wales, the General Banking Department of the State Bank of South Australia, and from July, 1946, the Rural Department of the Rural and Industries Bank of Western Australia. (b) See note (b), page 47. (c) From January, 1948, the General Bank Department of the Rural Bank of New South Wales replaced the Rural Bank Department of that Bank. (d) See note (d), page 47. (e) See note (c), page 47. (f) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fourth Wednesday. (g) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fifth Wednesday.

For meaning of symbol ——, see page 1.

ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS.

DEBITS TO CUSTOMERS' ACCOUNTS.(a)

(Excluding Debits to Australian Government Accounts at City Branches.)

(£ million.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queens-land.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian Capital Territory.	Total.
Average of Weekly Figures—								
1947-48 (b) ..	(c)69.4	61.2	19.9	12.7	8.7	3.9	0.1	(c)175.9
1948-49 ..	83.1	74.3	24.3	15.5	10.7	4.7	0.2	212.8
1949-50 ..	104.9	97.8	29.5	19.3	13.7	5.6	0.3	271.1
1950-51 ..	145.1	134.9	39.0	26.8	19.3	7.4	0.4	372.9
1951-52 ..	156.6	142.3	41.5	30.8	21.8	8.9	0.5	402.4
1952-53 ..	151.9	132.0	43.8	30.1	22.1	8.8	0.6	389.3
1953-54 ..	171.7	154.9	51.0	32.8	25.4	9.9	0.8	446.5
1952-53—								
March ..	162.4	141.0	45.5	32.3	23.2	9.8	0.5	414.7
April ..	149.6	142.6	44.7	32.2	22.7	9.5	0.8	402.1
May ..	157.4	139.2	44.5	33.3	23.1	10.3	0.6	408.4
June ..	160.3	136.3	50.8	31.4	20.8	9.6	0.6	409.8
1953-54—								
July ..	163.6	138.0	52.5	31.5	22.9	9.7	0.6	418.8
August ..	145.6	124.7	46.0	27.1	20.4	8.7	0.5	373.0
September ..	167.7	131.2	50.7	30.5	23.3	9.3	1.1	413.8
October ..	168.3	140.6	51.5	31.0	24.1	9.1	0.9	425.5
November ..	173.0	146.9	52.0	31.0	25.8	9.2	0.7	438.6
December ..	187.1	174.6	55.7	35.4	29.8	10.4	0.7	493.7
January ..	151.9	146.3	43.4	28.5	25.9	8.1	1.0	405.1
February ..	164.8	156.5	47.8	34.4	25.6	9.0	0.6	438.7
March ..	184.7	180.4	48.4	36.3	26.8	12.0	0.7	489.3
April ..	166.2	165.1	47.8	33.6	25.8	10.3	1.0	449.8
May ..	183.0	177.3	54.4	36.4	26.9	11.8	0.8	490.6
June ..	194.9	171.7	59.3	36.2	26.1	11.1	0.7	500.0
1954-55—								
July ..	181.8	161.0	56.0	34.9	26.2	10.7	0.7	471.3
August ..	170.6	156.5	49.5	32.1	24.3	9.8	0.6	443.4
September ..	179.7	168.5	54.1	34.5	25.4	9.8	0.7	472.7
October ..	190.3	178.0	56.3	35.5	26.8	10.0	0.7	497.6
November ..	185.8	170.4	54.8	36.2	25.6	9.9	0.7	483.4
December ..	194.5	184.4	55.6	37.5	27.1	11.0	0.9	511.0
January ..	173.8	165.9	52.0	34.3	27.6	9.2	0.9	463.7
February ..	188.3	189.0	53.3	37.1	26.3	10.1	0.8	504.9
March (d) ..	186.0	187.1	50.3	38.5	27.1	12.0	0.9	501.9

(a) Compiled from returns lodged under the Banking Act 1945-1953. Averages of four or five weeks ended on last Wednesday. Includes in addition to the banks included in series on page 49, the Rural Credits, Mortgage Bank and Industrial Finance Departments of the Commonwealth Bank. (b) Debits to Customers' Accounts relating to the transfer of accounts from The Queensland National Bank Ltd. (in vol. liq.) to The National Bank of Australasia Ltd. have been excluded from January 1948. (c) See note (c) on previous page. (d) Debits to Customers' Accounts relating to the transfer of accounts from The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. to The National Bank of Australasia Ltd. have been excluded from March, 1955.

For meaning of symbol ——, see page 1.

SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS AND SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.

(£ million.)

At end of—	Amounts on Deposit in Savings Banks.									War Savings and Savings Certificates— Net Amount Outstanding.
	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queens- land.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Northern Territory.	Australian Capital Territory.	Australia.	
1936-37 ..	82.0	75.7	27.3	26.5	11.8	7.2	0.1	0.3	230.9	..
1937-38 ..	86.0	78.9	28.2	27.2	12.0	7.7	0.1	0.3	240.4	..
1938-39 ..	87.5	80.5	29.0	27.4	12.4	8.4	0.1	0.3	245.6	..
1947-48 ..	237.0	226.4	84.8	73.6	36.2	21.6	0.6	1.1	681.3	64.5
1948-49 ..	244.5	239.3	87.4	81.2	37.5	22.4	0.7	1.2	714.2	62.2
1949-50 ..	258.9	257.1	92.2	87.7	39.6	24.3	0.9	1.4	762.1	55.0
1950-51 ..	284.5	281.8	98.8	97.8	44.7	27.1	1.0	1.7	837.4	48.1
1951-52 ..	304.5	300.8	102.7	103.7	47.2	30.1	1.1	1.8	891.9	41.8
1952-53 ..	319.1	320.0	109.4	113.9	49.8	32.1	1.1	2.1	947.5	35.6
1953-54 ..	339.8	339.8	117.4	122.9	52.6	34.0	1.3	2.3	1,010.1	30.3
1952-53—										
March ..	313.8	311.6	106.4	110.1	48.6	31.3	1.1	2.1	925.0	37.0
April ..	313.3	311.8	106.5	110.4	48.6	31.5	1.1	2.1	925.3	36.5
May ..	312.7	312.8	106.7	110.8	48.6	31.6	1.1	2.1	926.4	36.1
June ..	319.1	320.0	109.4	113.9	49.8	32.1	1.1	2.1	(a) 947.5	35.6
1953-54—										
July ..	320.4	321.5	110.3	115.0	50.0	32.3	1.2	2.2	952.9	35.1
August ..	322.6	322.9	111.7	115.6	50.4	32.8	1.2	2.3	959.5	34.5
September	325.2	324.9	112.8	116.3	51.0	33.1	1.2	2.3	966.8	34.0
October	325.8	325.5	113.0	116.7	51.1	32.9	1.3	2.3	968.6	33.6
November	326.2	325.9	113.4	117.2	51.3	33.0	1.3	2.3	970.6	33.0
December	327.7	327.0	114.0	117.3	51.4	32.8	1.2	2.3	973.7	32.6
January	329.4	327.8	113.7	117.9	51.3	32.9	1.2	2.3	976.5	32.1
February	332.4	329.4	114.4	119.1	51.4	33.3	1.2	2.3	983.5	31.7
March ..	331.3	329.0	114.3	119.1	51.1	33.3	1.2	2.3	981.6	31.3
April ..	332.3	330.0	114.3	119.4	51.3	33.4	1.2	2.3	984.2	30.9
May ..	333.3	332.6	114.9	120.2	51.7	33.6	1.2	2.3	989.8	30.6
June ..	339.8	339.8	117.4	122.9	52.6	34.0	1.3	2.3	a 1,010.1	30.3
1954-55—										
July ..	341.9	341.8	119.0	124.3	52.7	34.3	1.3	2.4	1,017.7	30.0
August ..	343.1	344.7	120.4	125.0	53.1	34.8	1.3	2.4	1,024.8	29.7
September	344.3	346.6	121.4	125.5	53.1	34.9	1.3	2.5	1,029.6	29.3
October	346.7	348.4	122.2	126.4	53.3	34.8	1.3	2.5	1,035.6	28.9
November	347.2	350.0	122.9	126.5	53.3	34.7	1.4	2.5	1,038.5	28.7
December	347.8	350.9	123.4	126.5	52.9	34.7	1.4	2.5	1,040.1	28.3
January	350.2	353.2	123.4	127.5	53.1	34.8	1.4	2.5	1,046.0	28.0
February	350.7	354.0	122.6	128.2	52.7	35.0	1.4	2.5	1,047.1	27.7
March	350.9	354.5	122.2	128.5	52.5	35.1	1.4	2.5	1,047.6	27.5

(a) Interest added 1952-53, £16.6m.; 1953-54, £17.8m. The major part of this interest was added in June.

For meaning of symbol .., see page 1.

LIFE ASSURANCE BUSINESS.(a)

Period.	New Policies Issued.(b)				Premiums.(c)		Claims, &c., Paid.(d)		New Loans Granted.(e)
	Ordinary Department.		Industrial Department.		Ordinary Department.	Industrial Department.	Ordinary Department.	Industrial Department.	
	Number.	Sum Assured.	Number.	Sum Assured.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	
Monthly Average—									
1937 ..	12,296	4,120	36,148	1,684	1,045	474	747	223	n.a.
1938 ..	11,470	3,867	32,757	1,530	1,075	617	781	246	n.a.
1939 ..	11,293	3,886	32,125	1,545	1,144	541	835	303	n.a.
1947-48 (a)	20,171	10,077	26,915	2,492	2,258	910	1,044	471	1,057
1948-49 ..	20,201	10,618	25,254	2,458	2,539	967	1,112	497	1,476
1949-50 ..	20,538	12,243	24,999	2,509	2,877	1,003	1,224	512	2,778
1950-51 ..	21,642	15,206	22,713	2,423	3,210	1,043	1,310	491	3,893
1951-52 ..	23,607	18,464	23,216	2,817	3,651	1,102	1,441	546	3,963
1952-53 ..	23,643	18,828	22,853	2,946	4,186	1,147	1,576	619	3,011
1953-54 ..	23,710	21,177	19,983	2,715	4,680	1,173	1,763	672	2,872
Monthly Total—									
1952-53—									
February ..	17,487	13,800	21,985	2,767	3,472	1,117	1,398	593	2,355
March ..	22,475	17,309	28,501	3,710	4,139	1,256	1,685	665	2,460
April ..	22,292	17,334	22,457	2,949	4,220	1,133	1,566	565	3,591
May ..	24,658	19,407	25,189	3,256	4,000	1,097	1,528	649	2,823
June ..	25,670	21,142	25,547	3,325	5,547	1,217	1,731	691	3,459
1953-54—									
July ..	28,463	25,048	21,041	2,735	5,072	1,231	1,960	734	3,195
August ..	25,421	20,410	24,732	3,370	4,259	1,215	1,763	706	2,784
September ..	30,989	25,884	26,340	3,597	4,688	1,167	1,870	671	3,286
October ..	22,489	18,688	19,267	2,588	4,255	1,215	1,765	702	2,821
November ..	23,518	19,026	22,702	3,030	4,263	1,208	1,610	671	2,190
December ..	29,903	35,870	13,792	1,932	5,428	1,344	1,948	614	3,091
January ..	13,604	10,818	6,904	896	3,771	640	1,327	501	2,017
February ..	16,169	13,397	17,919	2,412	3,812	1,282	1,493	611	1,880
March ..	21,794	18,880	24,477	3,386	4,926	1,274	2,012	735	3,535
April ..	21,324	20,967	18,942	2,664	4,433	1,122	1,579	643	3,233
May ..	25,064	21,380	22,500	3,121	5,183	1,178	1,840	744	3,013
June ..	25,806	23,759	21,076	2,844	6,072	1,200	1,991	726	3,418
1954-55—									
July ..	27,010	26,383	18,704	2,627	5,166	1,189	2,111	805	3,624
August ..	25,513	23,916	21,284	3,113	5,102	1,191	2,042	779	3,312
September ..	30,787	31,146	29,567	4,312	5,137	1,327	2,120	724	3,627
October ..	22,427	20,953	17,126	2,485	4,617	1,210	1,969	744	4,440
November ..	22,973	22,321	19,599	2,874	4,885	1,315	1,823	795	4,149
December ..	31,474	37,228	16,406	2,661	5,592	1,489	2,320	638	4,806
January ..	11,188	10,383	4,967	720	4,153	675	1,293	559	2,962
February ..	16,358	15,828	17,464	2,541	4,498	1,181	1,764	736	3,731

(a) Excludes business of the Government Insurance Office of New South Wales and the Queensland State Government Insurance Office which operate only in New South Wales and Queensland respectively. Monthly averages for the years 1937 to 1947 are based on annual returns for the financial years of the companies. From 1947-48 the figures have been compiled from monthly returns.

(b) Excludes annuity policies. (c) Includes consideration for annuities. (d) Includes claims paid on death or maturity, payments made on surrender of policies, annuities and bonuses paid in cash. (e) Excludes advances of premiums.

For meaning of symbols n.a., —, see page 1.

EXCHANGE RATES, GOLD PRICES AND SECURITY YIELDS.

Period.	Exchange Rates.(a)			Gold Prices.(a)		Commonwealth Government Securities taxed at Current Commonwealth Rates.		Private First Mortgages Registered in New South Wales —Urban Securities.
	Australia on London.(b)	London on New York. (b)	Australia on New York. (c)	Australia.	London.	Short Dated 2 years.(d)	Long Dated 12 years.(d)	
1936-37 ..	£A. per £100 Stg.	\$ per £Stg.	\$ per £A.	£A. per fine oz.	£Stg. per fine oz.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent. (e)
1937-38 ..	125.25	4.939	3.929	8.761	7.041	(f) 3.57	(g) 3.94	5.3
1938-39 ..	125.25	4.980	3.961	8.690	7.001	(f) 3.30	(g) 3.71	5.4
		4.738	3.759	9.137	7.340	(f) 3.67	(g) 3.84	5.5
1947-48 ..	125.25	4.030	3.200	10.763	8.613	2.34	3.16	4.4
1948-49 ..	125.25	4.030	3.204	10.763	8.613	2.07	3.12	4.4
1949-50 ..	125.25	3.074	2.445	14.443	11.557	1.95	3.13	4.4
1950-51 ..	125.25	2.800	2.228	15.492	12.400	1.99	3.21	4.4
1951-52 ..	125.25	2.796	2.224	15.492	12.400	2.05	3.95	4.4
1952-53 ..	125.25	2.804	2.231	15.492	12.400	3.03	4.54	4.7
1953-54 ..	125.25	2.813	2.238	15.514	12.411	3.10	4.44	4.9
1952-53—								(h)
March ..	125.25	2.816	2.241	15.492	12.400	3.20	4.57	4.8
April ..	125.25	2.817	2.241	15.492	12.400	3.17	4.51	4.8
May ..	125.25	2.815	2.240	15.492	12.400	3.17	4.54	4.9
June ..	125.25	2.814	2.239	15.492	12.400	3.16	4.48	4.9
1953-54—								
July ..	125.25	2.816	2.240	15.492	12.400	3.03	4.47	4.9
August ..	125.25	2.815	2.240	15.492	12.400	2.95	4.47	4.9
September ..	125.25	2.803	2.231	15.492	12.400	2.96	4.42	4.9
October ..	125.25	2.806	2.233	15.492	12.400	2.99	4.43	4.9
November ..	125.25	2.811	2.237	15.492	12.400	2.97	4.42	4.9
December ..	125.25	2.811	2.236	15.492	12.400	2.98	4.43	4.9
January ..	125.25	2.812	2.237	15.492	12.400	3.03	4.40	4.9
February ..	125.25	2.813	2.239	15.492	12.400	3.08	4.40	4.9
March ..	125.25	2.815	2.240	15.492	12.407	3.17	4.47	4.9
April ..	125.25	2.818	2.243	15.492	12.437	3.24	4.46	5.0
May ..	125.25	2.819	2.243	15.625	12.445	3.34	4.47	5.0
June ..	125.25	2.818	2.243	15.625	12.444	3.42	4.40	5.0
1954-55—								
July ..	125.25	2.818	2.242	15.625	12.449	3.54	4.47	5.1
August ..	125.25	2.813	2.239	15.625	12.458	3.47	4.49	5.1
September ..	125.25	2.801	2.229	15.625	12.522	3.56	4.48	5.1
October ..	125.25	2.798	2.226	15.625	12.541	3.43	4.49	5.2
November ..	125.25	2.795	2.224	15.625	12.541	3.39	4.50	5.2
December ..	125.25	2.788	2.218	15.625	12.566	3.48	4.52	5.3
January ..	125.25	2.786	2.217	15.625	12.580	3.35	4.49	5.4
February ..	125.25	2.784	2.218	15.625	12.589	3.29	4.49	5.4
March ..	125.25	2.792	2.220	15.625	12.557	3.49	4.53	5.5

(a) Average of daily quotations. (b) Average of buying and selling rates for telegraphic transfers. (c) Selling rate.
 Direct quotation. (d) Rates for securities maturing in 2 and 12 years, estimated from rates on securities maturing in 0-5, and 10 or more years, respectively. Figures relate to last Wednesday in month. (e) Average of monthly quotations. (f) Under 5 years taxed at 1930 Commonwealth rates. (g) Ten years and over taxed at 1930 Commonwealth rates. (h) Average rate on mortgages registered in three months ending with month shown.

INTEREST RATES.

(Per Cent. per Annum.)

Date of Change in Rate.	Trading Banks—					Commonwealth Savings Bank Deposits (Maximum Rate).	Treasury Bills (Discount Rate).	Commonwealth Loans (Long Term).	
	Fixed Deposits—				Overdrafts.				
	3 months.	6 months.	12 months.	24 months.	Commonwealth Trading Bank.(a)	Private Trading Banks.			
1937—27th April ..	2.00	2.50	2.75	3.00	4.25		2.00	1.75	3.88
30th November ..	2.00	2.50	2.75	3.00	4.25		2.00	1.75	3.75
1938—9th November ..	2.00	2.50	2.75	3.00	4.25		2.00	1.75	3.88
1940—24th January ..	1.75	2.25	2.50	2.75	4.25	(b)	2.00	1.75	3.88
1st March ..	1.75	2.25	2.50	2.75	4.25		2.00	1.75	3.63
28th May ..	1.50	2.00	2.25	2.50	(c)4.25		2.00	1.50	3.25
1941—22nd Sept. ..	1.50	1.75	2.00	2.25	4.25		2.00	1.50	3.25
1942—14th March ..	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	4.25	5.00	2.00	1.50	3.25
1943—1st May ..	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	4.25	5.00	2.00	1.25	3.25
1944—17th January ..	1.00	1.25	1.50	2.00	4.25	5.00	2.00	1.25	3.25
11th August ..	0.50	0.75	1.25	1.75	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.25	3.25
1945—1st March ..	0.50	0.75	1.25	1.75	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.00	3.25
1st December ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	(d)1.50	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.00	3.25
1946—20th November ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	(d)1.50	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.00	3.13
1947—1st January ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	(d)1.50	4.25	4.50	2.00	1.00	3.13
1949—1st May ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	(d)1.50	4.25	4.50	2.00	0.75	3.13
1951—21st August ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	(d)1.50	4.25	4.50	2.00	0.75	3.75
1952—29th July ..	1.00	1.25	1.50	(e)1.75	4.75	5.00	2.25	1.00	3.75
25th November ..	1.00	1.25	1.50	(e)1.75	4.75	5.00	2.25	1.00	4.50
1955—1st January ..	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	4.75	5.00	2.50	1.00	4.50

(a) Prior to 3rd December, 1953, General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank.

Banks not published, but predominant rates between 1936 and 1940 were 5.25 per cent. to 5.50 per cent. On 1st July, 1940, rates in excess of 5.25 per cent. were reduced by 0.25 per cent. and on 1st January, 1942, there was a further reduction of 0.125 per cent.

(c) Since July, 1940, rate for Municipal and Semi-Government Authorities, 0.25 per cent. lower.

(d) 1 per cent. on amounts in excess of £10,000.

(b) Rates for Private Trading

Banks not published.

(e) 1.50 per cent. on amounts in excess of £10,000.

COMMONWEALTH AND STATES: SHORT-TERM DEBT REDEEMABLE IN AUSTRALIA.(a)

(£'000.)

Date.	Commonwealth.	States.	Total.	Date.	Commonwealth.	States.	Total.
30th June—				1953-54—			
1937 ..	..	46,408	46,408	31st Oct. ..	190,000	1,000	191,000
1938 ..	..	46,598	46,598	30th Nov. ..	235,000	1,000	236,000
1939 ..	..	50,228	50,228	31st Dec. ..	245,000	1,000	246,000
1948 ..	208,280	..	208,280	31st Jan. ..	245,000	1,000	246,000
1949 ..	123,280	..	123,280	28th Feb. ..	250,000	1,000	251,000
1950 ..	108,280	..	108,280	31st March ..	205,000	1,000	206,000
1951 ..	108,280	2,400	110,680	30th April ..	185,000	..	185,000
1952 ..	153,280	..	153,280	31st May ..	190,000	..	190,000
1953 ..	225,000	..	225,000	30th June ..	190,000	..	190,000
1954 ..	190,000	..	190,000	1954-55—			
1952-53—	..			31st July ..	155,000	..	155,000
30th April ..	280,000	6,973	286,973	31st August ..	140,000	..	140,000
31st May ..	230,000	6,041	236,041	30th Sept. ..	185,000	..	185,000
30th June ..	225,000	..	225,000	31st Oct. ..	200,000	..	200,000
1953-54—				30th Nov. ..	195,000	..	195,000
31st July ..	205,000	1,000	206,000	31st Dec. ..	215,000	..	215,000
31st Aug. ..	195,000	1,000	196,000	31st Jan. ..	230,000	..	230,000
30th Sept. ..	205,000	1,000	206,000	28th Feb. ..	225,000	..	225,000

(a) Excludes overdrafts and Internal Treasury Bills.

For meaning of symbol .., see page 1.

COMMONWEALTH AND STATE FINANCE. (a)

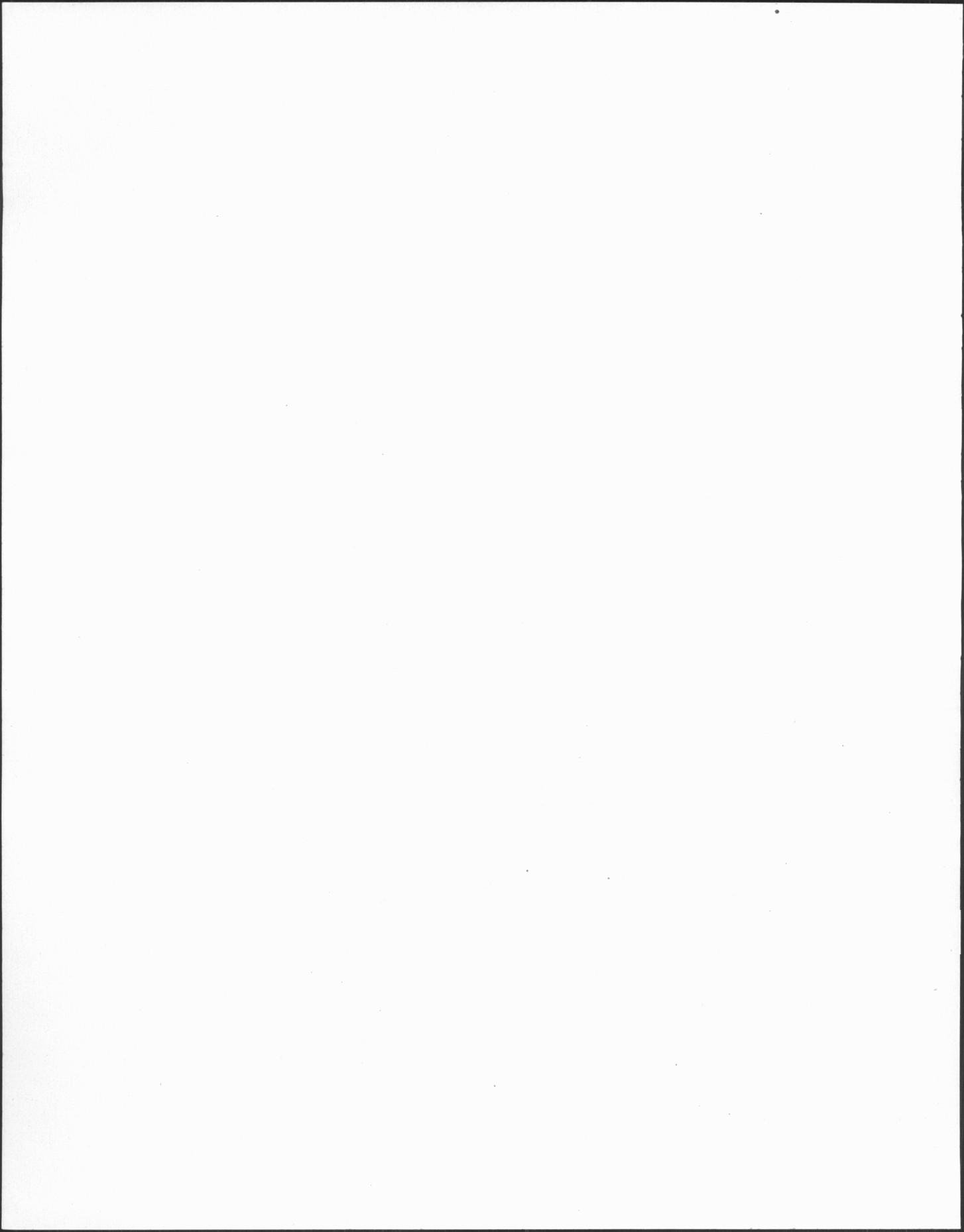
(£ million.)

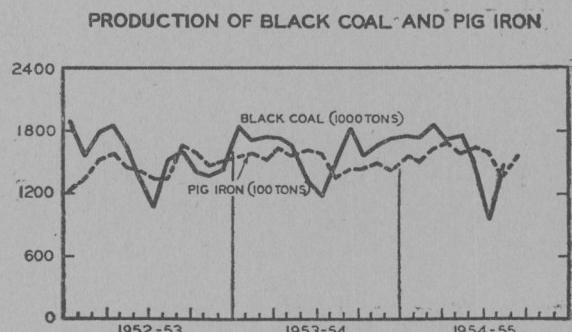
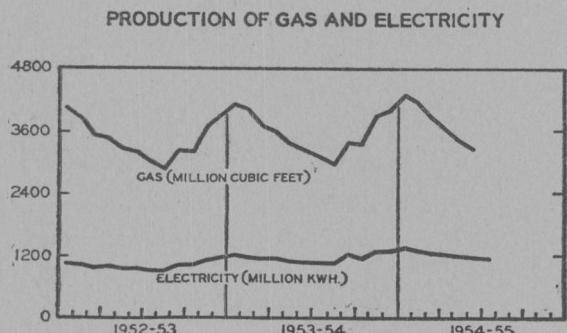
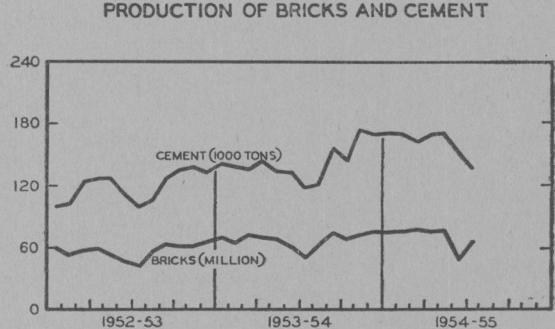
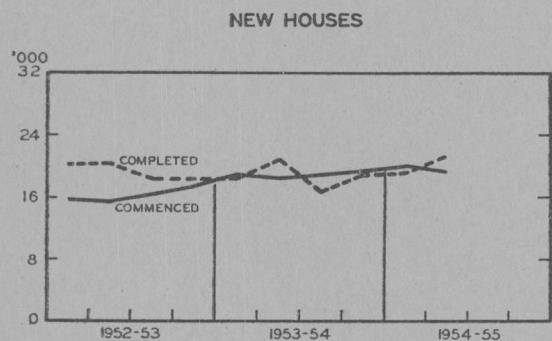
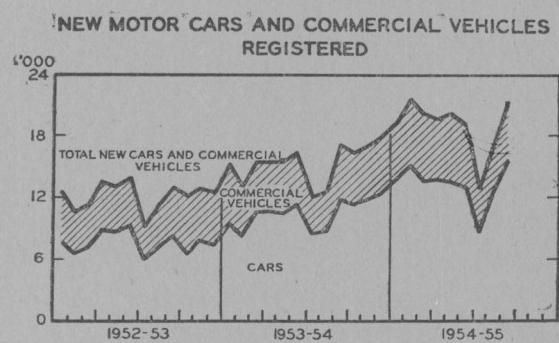
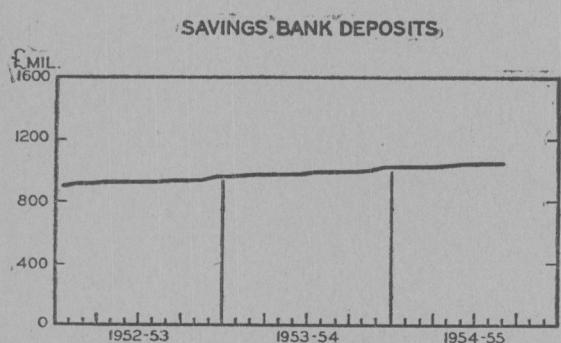
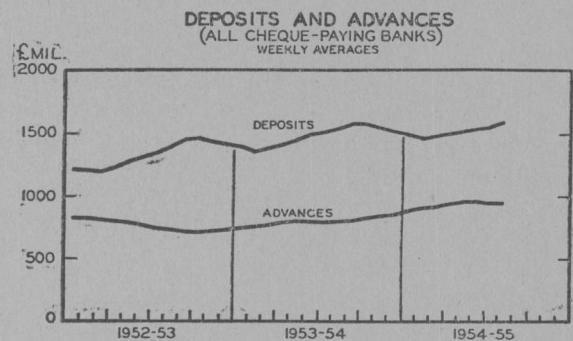
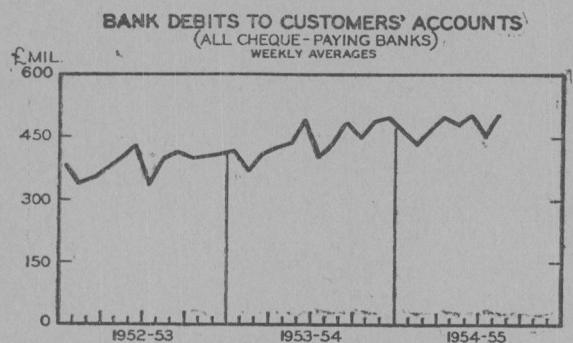
Period.	New South Wales.(b)	Victoria.	Queens-land.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Six States.	Common-wealth.	Grand Total.(a)
REVENUE.									
1936-37	49.2	27.2	16.5	11.7	10.2	3.5	118.3	82.8	191.1
1937-38	53.6	27.6	17.3	12.5	10.8	3.6	125.4	89.5	204.8
1938-39	51.1	27.0	19.3	12.3	11.0	3.6	124.3	95.1	209.6
1948-49	96.1	46.8	33.0	21.8	20.6	5.7	224.0	554.4	706.6
1949-50	106.5	55.6	37.1	26.3	26.0	7.1	258.6	580.7	746.6
1950-51	128.3	63.5	44.7	31.1	29.0	7.8	304.4	841.8	1,032.0
1951-52	167.1	81.7	55.7	37.5	34.0	10.5	386.5	1,016.8	1,260.1
1952-53	180.9	97.0	63.2	44.2	38.7	12.1	436.1	1,040.1	1,310.7
1953-54	186.6	106.7	69.7	48.4	43.6	13.3	468.3	1,022.8	1,320.3
1954-55 (Estimate)	191.0	112.4	72.9	47.8	45.2	14.5	483.8	1,017.2	1,325.5
1952-53—									
July-Jan.	99.0	46.1	33.9	23.2	20.1	6.1	228.4	479.2	627.2
Feb.	113.4	52.8	38.1	26.8	23.1	6.9	261.1	582.3	751.5
March	127.2	60.4	43.4	30.4	26.5	8.0	295.9	663.7	856.2
1953-54—									
July-Jan.	98.5	50.8	38.1	25.1	23.0	6.5	242.0	472.4	631.4
Feb.	112.8	58.2	42.3	28.8	26.1	7.3	275.5	535.8	716.6
March	127.8	67.3	47.6	32.9	29.9	8.6	314.1	638.6	846.1
1954-55—									
July-Jan.	103.0	57.5	40.5	25.3	25.1	7.0	258.4	482.1	646.7
Feb.	118.9	65.7	45.5	29.2	28.5	8.0	295.8	555.2	753.7
March	127.8	74.5	51.3		32.1	9.5		648.1	

Period.	New South Wales.(b)	Victoria.	Queens-land.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Six States.	Common-wealth.	Grand Total.(a)
EXPENDITURE.									
1936-37	49.2	27.2	16.8	11.6	10.6	3.4	118.8	81.5	190.3
1937-38	53.5	27.6	17.6	12.4	10.8	3.6	125.5	86.0	201.4
1938-39	53.6	27.8	19.3	12.7	11.2	3.6	128.2	94.4	212.8
1948-49	95.9	48.2	32.9	22.1	21.4	5.9	226.4	554.4	709.0
1949-50	107.7	55.8	37.1	26.6	26.0	7.3	260.5	580.7	748.4
1950-51	128.3	63.9	44.6	30.8	28.8	8.1	304.5	841.8	1,032.0
1951-52	167.0	84.1	55.7	37.5	34.5	10.9	389.7	1,016.8	1,263.3
1952-53	180.8	97.4	63.0	44.2	39.2	11.8	436.4	1,026.7	1,297.6
1953-54	186.5	106.0	69.3	46.6	43.7	13.3	465.4	966.5	1,261.1
1954-55 (Estimate)	191.2	112.3	72.8	49.8	45.4	14.8	486.3	1,016.9	1,327.7
1952-53—									
July-Jan.	102.2	54.3	35.3	24.3	21.8	6.4	244.3	526.3	690.2
Feb.	115.6	61.6	40.0	28.2	25.0	7.4	277.8	636.9	822.6
March	129.7	70.0	45.6	31.7	28.4	8.5	313.9	724.8	935.3
1953-54—									
July-Jan.	100.4	56.4	37.8	25.5	25.0	7.1	252.2	504.4	673.6
Feb.	115.3	63.9	43.2	29.1	28.3	8.0	287.8	570.5	763.6
March	131.0	73.3	49.4	33.5	31.9	9.5	328.6	656.9	879.0
1954-55—									
July-Jan.	107.2	58.9	39.9	27.5	25.9	7.5	266.9	518.8	691.9
Feb.	122.2	67.0	45.4	31.5	29.4	8.7	304.2	589.5	896.4
March	131.0	79.4	51.9		33.4	10.2		684.2	

(a) To avoid duplication in aggregating particulars for the Commonwealth and States, the grand totals exclude payments by the Commonwealth to the States for compensation in respect of uniform taxation, interest on States' debts, special grants and special financial assistance, also pay-roll tax payments by States to the Commonwealth. The totals of revenue and expenditure of the States have also been adjusted. (b) Excludes Main Roads Department, Road Transport and Traffic Fund, and recoups of interest, &c. from undertakings outside the Budget. To obtain comparability between States, Commonwealth Hospital Benefits have been excluded from annual figures.

For meaning of symbol r, see page 1.





BUREAU PUBLICATIONS SINCE PREVIOUS ISSUE.

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| April | 26. Monthly Bulletin of Production Statistics, No. 77 : April, 1955.
" 27. Commonwealth and State Taxation Collections : 1953-54.
" 28. Monthly Bulletin of Employment Statistics, No. 159 : February, 1955.
" 29. A Summary of the Wheat Situation, No. 88 : April, 1955.
" 29. Monthly Demographic Review, No. 52 : April, 1955. |
| May | 2. Monthly Bulletin of Banking Statistics, No. 114 : February, 1955.
" 2. Statistical Bulletin : The Gold Mining Industry : January, 1955.
" 2. *Secondary Industries, No. 47 : 1952-53.
" 3. Statistical Bulletin : The Dairying Industry, Vol. 18, No. 2 : February, 1955.
" 5. *Pocket Compendium of Australian Statistics, No. 40 : 1955.
" 5. Census of Australia, 30th June, 1954 : Preliminary Statement, No. 20.
" 6. Vegetables grown on Farms for Human Consumption, No. 8 : 1953-54.
" 6. Oversea Trade (Preliminary) : April, 1955.
" 9. Monthly Review of Business Statistics, No. 209 : February, 1955.
" 10. Balance of Payments : 1952-53, 1953-54 and first half of 1954-55.
" 10. *Official Year Book of the Commonwealth of Australia, Part 2.—The Territories of Australia.
" 13. Statistical Bulletin : The Gold Mining Industry : February, 1955.
" 13. Monthly Bulletin of Oversea Trade : March, 1955.
" 14. Savings Bank Deposits and Savings Certificates, No. 93 : March, 1955.
" 18. Monthly Bulletin of Banking Statistics, No. 115 : March, 1955.
" 19. Monthly Bulletin of Life Assurance Statistics, No. 97 : February, 1955.
" 19. Census of Australia, 30th June, 1954 : Preliminary Statements, Nos. 21, 22, 23.
" 20. The "C" Series Retail Price Index : March Quarter, 1955.
" 20. Exports of Wool : Ten months ended April, 1955.
" 21. Interim Retail Price Index : March Quarter, 1955.
" 21. Building Statistics (Preliminary) : March Quarter, 1955.
" 24. Road Traffic Accidents : September Quarter, 1954.
" 24. Registrations of New Motor Vehicles (Preliminary) : April, 1955.
" 25. Monthly Index of Export Prices : February, 1955.
" 25. *Demography Bulletin, No. 71 : 1953.
" 26. Monthly Bulletin of Employment Statistics, No. 160 : March, 1950.
" 27. Monthly Bulletin of Production Statistics, No. 78 : May, 1955.
" 28. Statistical Bulletin : The Dairying Industry, Vol. 18, No. 3 : March, 1955. |
| June | 1. Monthly Index of Export Prices : March, 1955.
" 1. Statistical Bulletin : Tractors on Rural Holdings Classified according to Horse-power, Fuel Used and Age of Tractor : 31st March, 1954.
" 1. Census of Retail Establishments : 30th June, 1953 : Tasmania and Western Australia.
" 2. Monthly Bulletin of Banking Statistics, No. 116 : April.
" 2. Monthly Bulletin of Life Assurance Statistics, No. 98 : March, 1955.
" 2. Savings Bank Deposits and Savings Certificates, No. 94 : April, 1955. |

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